

THE TIMES Tomorrow

State... Analysis of President Reagan's State of the Union Message as the election campaign gets into its stride

... of grace Spectrum discovers how an American dissident came out of prison to become a thoroughly modern business man



Jerry Rubin: yuppie reformed

Cross... Who owns the Cross of Yeshu? Philip Howard explains all - and takes sides

... court Rex Bellamy previews a tennis tournament designed to encourage the development of new British players

... pass Friday Page discovers how life begins to pass by the woman who is out of work

Shipyards efficiency deal agreed

British Shipbuilders announced an agreement at national level with unions over productivity and working practices which it said placed the industry "alongside northern Europe" on competitiveness. Earlier the company said it is to cut 1,872 jobs and shut three yards in the next two months

Exports recover to record level

Exports at record levels helped push Britain's current account surplus last year to £2 billion - for the first time since 1977 - says the Treasury last November. The surprise improvement followed large deficits earlier in the year

Bishop's attack

The Bishop of Birmingham, Dr Hugh Montefiore, has strongly attacked the Times for its "prejudiced and ill-founded" criticism of the Queen's Christmas broadcast. Report, page 2

Irish Budget

The Irish Republic's Budget put 2p on the price of beer, 2p on cigarettes, 6p on a gallon of petrol and VAT on clothes. Page 2

£3.5m tax case

Five men will face magistrates at Harrow, north London, today charged with VAT and Inland Revenue offences involving the alleged evasion of up to £3.5m in taxes

Civil wedding

A disabled former soldier who was refused a Catholic wedding, said he would marry in a register office, although the church had reversed its decision. Page 3

Disaster inquiry

Safety officials began investigating the sinking of the cargo ship Radiant Med off Germany in which 17 crew drowned. Seven of the nine crew rescued were released from hospital.

Leader page, 13

Letters: On the Queen's broadcast, from the Master of Balliol, and others; Namibia, from the Bishop of Manchester and others; data protection, from Mr D Waddington.

Features, pages 10, 12

Enoch Powell defends his criticism of the Queen's speeches; Mrs Thatcher's politics of fantasy; Ronald Butt gives the case for the return of the Paymaster General; The Times Profile: Lord Bernstein

Books, page 11

The posthumous autobiography of Luis Buñuel; Alasdair Clayre's posthumous book about China; Dashiell Hammett; Stuart Evans on fiction; Trevor Phillips on British Blacks, Freemasons.

Obituary, page 14

The Very Rev Thomas Murchison, Dr Robert Lucas

GCHQ staff lose union rights in security crackdown

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Staff employed in the secret gathering of signals intelligence at the Government Communications Headquarters, at Cheltenham, were yesterday deprived of their right to union membership.

Ministers acted from fear that normal trade union activity, if continued, might lead to breaches of security and renewed disruption, as happened between 1979 and 1981, of work which Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, described in the Commons yesterday as of crucial importance to national security.

Sir Geoffrey's announcement was received with resentment by leaders of Civil Service trade unions, and surprise by the Opposition in Parliament. Labour MPs were reluctant to accept his assurance that the Government's decision was in response solely to past industrial activity at the Cheltenham base, of which there has been no recurrence since 1981.

Mr Merlyn Rees, the former Labour Home Secretary, said governments did not act in such a way unless something had happened. Sir Geoffrey, in reply, said the earlier industrial disruption, and damage to confidence in the reliability of the organization.

Ministers acted, he said repeatedly, only after long and serious consideration. Sir Geoffrey acted by signing certificates yesterday under the Employment Protection Act, 1975, and the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act, 1978.

The immediate effect of the

certificates is to remove recognition of trade unions at the Cheltenham headquarters, and to make it a condition of service for both present and new employees that they must belong only to an approved staff association.

New terms of employment will mean that staff who take industrial action of any description will be liable to disciplinary proceedings.

Sir Geoffrey announced that staff who remain at Cheltenham will each receive a payment of £1,000 in recognition of their loss of rights. They will have the option of moving to other jobs in the Civil Service or taking early retirement, for which terms in the Civil Service compare well with those in other employment.

Sir Geoffrey added that yesterday's decision would not create a precedent, and that ministers did not intend to take similar action outside the security and intelligence field.

Under pressure from Mr Denis Healey, for the Social Democratic Party, he said that the special provisions, which could be used only to safeguard national security were contained in statutes passed under a Labour administration, and were "already applied to other aspects of the security service".

Although Sir Geoffrey was not specific, action was taken in 1971 by a Conservative Government, and in 1976 by a Labour Government, to disallow union membership in the security service and the secret intelligence service. In the first

case the powers were contained in the Industrial Relations Act, 1971, later repealed.

Mr Healey said that the two services were small bodies of professional men, but the Cheltenham headquarters was completely different in its importance and in the secrecy of its work, not differing much from civil servants in the Foreign Office or workers in armaments industries.

All had the right to industrial organization and had not abused it, any more than those at Cheltenham.

It was a shabby affair, he said, and very imprudent. Mr Dennis Skinner, loudest among the Labour objectors, said that fascists had always used national security the chip away at hard-won liberties, especially among the trade unions. More traitors came from Eton and Harrow than from the trade unions.

Government circles, habitually mute about the work at Cheltenham, would not even put a figure on the size of the workforce yesterday. Dr Owen, a former Foreign Secretary, said it was 5,000.

Ministers explained yesterday's step by emphasizing that the disruption at Cheltenham three years ago, at the height of the Civil Service dispute, was severe, and that 33 "man-years" were lost through industrial action between 1979 and 1981. The effect of the disruption was said to have continued for some time after normal working was resumed.

Secrets in peril, page 2

US demand for introduction of lie-detectors blamed

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Civil Service union leaders last night branded the Government's proposed buy-out of union membership at GCHQ as "Judas money" and predicted that it would be rejected by 3,000 members.

They said that the Foreign Secretary's reasons were "a lie" and the official version a cover-up for American pressure on the Cabinet to break union resistance to the introduction of lie-detectors into sensitive defence installations.

The Council of Civil Service Unions is demanding an early meeting with Mrs Thatcher in her role as head of the Civil Service to try to dissuade the Government from going ahead with de-recognition of the five unions.

The TUC will be brought into the dispute today. Mr John Sheldon, general secretary of the Civil Service Union which has the largest number of GCHQ members, described the extra payment offered by Sir Geoffrey as "an offensive bribe". "They already have the loyalty of these people. It was proved in 1981, when despite the pay dispute all security work at Cheltenham

continued. To offer them £1,000 must suggest that it is unpatriotic to belong to a trade union, and that is a mischievous downright lie. Trade union members are just as patriotic and loyal as any other civil servants."

Union leaders were called to the Cabinet office yesterday afternoon to be told of the Foreign Office move.

The head of the civil service,

Sir Robert Armstrong, cited the implications of the lengthy 1981 strike by civil servants as justification.

Mr Sheldon said: "The real reason for the announcement is that they are having pressure put on them to introduce the polygraph, to which we are opposed on the grounds of interference with civil liberties. It is the USA putting the pressure on the Government about its security system."

Mr Alastair Graham, general secretary of the largest Whitehall union, the Civil and Public Services Association, said: "I would have expected this from General Jaruzelski in Poland, but not from a Prime Minister of a democratic state. I do not believe that people's civil and trade union liberties can be bought for £1,000."

The union believes that ministers think the access enjoyed by full-time union members to their members at GCHQ is a potential security hazard as they are not positively vetted. But nearly three years ago union leaders were warned that the United States and other

Continued on back page, col 1



Hair cut cost 'not sex bias'

By a Staff Reporter

A judge said yesterday that women must expect to pay more than men at hairdressing salons.

Judge Ward dismissed a claim in Hereford County Court by Mrs Nina Waldoock of Kimbolton, near Leominster, Hereford and Worcester, that the Keith and Peter salon at Hereford had discriminated against her by charging £7.50 for a shampoo, cut and blow dry while charging her husband £4 for the same service.

The judge said that he accepted the evidence by the salon's co-owner, Mr Keith Whitney, that greater expertise was required in the cutting and styling of a woman's hair than a man's. He said blow drying was part of the styling for a woman but only a drying operation for a man.

He said Mrs Waldoock might have proved discrimination if she had specifically asked for her hair to be treated in the same way as a man's.

After the case Mrs Waldoock, who brought the action with the support of the Equal Opportunities Commission, said she had received exactly the same service as her husband. "My hair is short and needed no more treatment than his. I hope more women will now complain about these price differences."

Mr Whitney commented: "Our win has saved men all over the country from having to pay more for their haircuts."

French pilot killed as Chad rebels down jet

From Diana Geddes, Paris

A French pilot has been shot down and killed in Chad, the Defence Ministry announced here last night. It is believed a Russian Sam-7 missile was responsible.

The pilot is the first Frenchman killed in combat since troops were sent five months ago to support the Government of President Hissène Habré against the Libyan-backed forces of former President Goukouni Oueddei.

M Charles Hernu, the Defence Minister, said a column of about 20 vehicles crossed the "red line", which divides the rebel-held north from the south, and attacked the military outpost of Ziguie, to the west, held by President Habré's forces.

M Hernu ordered French Jaguar pilots on a surveillance flight over the enemy. The jets came under fire from earth-to-air missiles, however, and one was shot down.

The others returned the fire and destroyed several vehicles, M Hernu said.

Meanwhile, Belgium has confirmed the capture of two doctors and lodged a protest in Tripoli with the Libyan Government.

A French humanitarian organization said the Belgian doctors had been taken two days earlier by what it believed to be the same column from the north. The organization identified the assailants as Libyans.

Sources in Paris said the French pilot had managed to eject



A train trapped in the snow north of Tyndrum, Argyllshire, yesterday. Blizzards stranded several trains as points and brakes froze, and lines blocked.

Optimistic Reagan message for nation

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Buoyed by new poll ratings showing strong public approval of his performance, President Reagan yesterday put the finishing touches to an optimistic "State of the Union" address which was seen as the opening shot in his campaign to seek reelection for a second presidential term.

The theme of his address, which he was due to deliver before the joint Houses of Congress last night, was that under his Administration the United States had moved "from the problems of the 1970s to the solutions of the 1980s".

His nationally-televised address was expected to emphasize his accomplishments over the past three years, especially the country's present economic recovery, and also to assure Americans that his defence build-up has made the world a safer place.

Officials said the speech would not contain any new foreign policy initiatives, but the President would reemphasize his desire for improved relations with the Soviet Union and his hopes for a revival of arms control negotiations. He would also reiterate US policy on Lebanon - an issue which is causing growing public concern in the US - and on Central America.

On the domestic front the President would focus on the success his administration has had on bringing inflation down and spurring the present economic recovery. Although he had no new proposals for reducing the country's huge budget deficit - estimated to be around \$200 billion (£138 billion) in the fiscal year 1985 - he was expected to announce plans for far-reaching changes.

Continued on back page, col 4

Dollar will weaken soon, says Regan

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

The dollar will weaken during 1984 as American interest rates fall further, according to Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary. He said it would "defy economic history" for the dollar to remain strong while the United States continued to run a big current account deficit on its balance of payments.

Mr Regan was replying to questions from financial journalists in seven European cities (London, Bonn, Paris, Brussels, The Hague, Rome, and Geneva) for whom the American Government had arranged simultaneous live satellite links with Washington.

Most of the questioning focused on the American budget deficit. Mr Regan said that next week's budget figures would indicate a fall in the deficit of \$10 billion between the fiscal years 1983 and 1984, and a similar decline for the following year.

He admitted that the deficit was "troublesome", but insisted this year's would not prevent a fall in interest rates, which he implied might drop by as much as three percentage points.

Mr Regan denied that the Reagan Administration was considering tax increases after the presidential election in November, arguing that the budget deficit could be bridged

by spending cuts across the spectrum. He said that this included the defence programme: "There is no budget that cannot be cut."

Mr Regan said he expected American growth to continue at a rate of 4.5 per cent this year, and inflation to remain at about 4 per cent. This, he argued, would help to reduce the budget deficit by more than present forecasts.

He responded angrily to a question suggesting that Europeans were financing the American budget deficit. He said that Europeans were buying fewer US Treasury securities than before President Reagan took office. He also denied that capital was attracted purely by high interest rates.

Mr Regan said the health of the American economy made it a particularly attractive place to invest. In a somewhat contradictory answer later, however, he said that the dollar would weaken this year when American interest rates came down.

He argued that there was no direct connexion between the size of the budget deficit and the level of interest rates. And he insisted that the deficit was "stimulatory" to the economy, and to those economies like Britain which export to the United States.

Leading article, page 13

Bairstow backs Boycott

Yorkshire's captain, David Bairstow, said yesterday in Muscat that he would have no objection to the county's former captain, Geoff Boycott, rejoining Yorkshire next season.

Bairstow, who is in Muscat with a team of English Test cricketers to play against an Indian selection XI, said: "I'd welcome Geoff back into the team and so would most of the Yorkshire players." He added that there would be no dispute over the club's captaincy.

Ray Illingworth, who led Yorkshire to the John Player League title last season, said yesterday that he was not going to play for the county again.

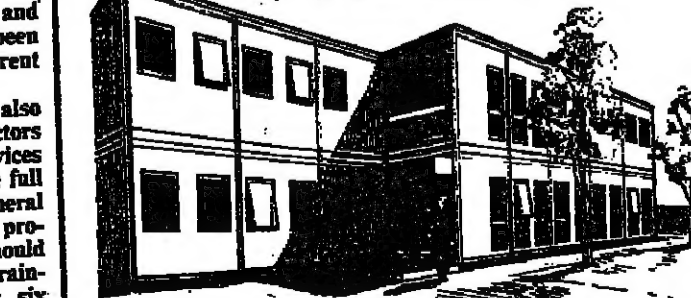
The former England captain explained that he was not prepared to put up any longer with the shouting and hawling which he had endured last season from some sections of the crowd.

Illingworth stops playing, page 20

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# Three shipyards to shut and 2,000 jobs to go as new orders dry up

British Shipbuilders is to shed another 1,872 jobs and shut down three yards in the next two months, it announced yesterday.

The yards due for closure are Clelands Shipbuilders, on the Tyne, where 402 jobs will go; Gooch Shipbuilders, on Humberside (365 jobs); and Henry Robb, on the Firth of Forth (383 jobs).

The rest of the redundancies will most severely affect Clyde-side, where 300 jobs will go at Govan Shipbuilders and 35 at Ferguson-Ailsa.

On Tyne-side, 135 jobs go at Clark Hawthorn, six at Walsend Slipway and five at K.L. Marine, Newcastle upon Tyne. Sunderland Forge on Wearside loses 43 jobs, Brooke Marine at Lowestoft, Suffolk, will lose 140 and 50 jobs will go at Vickers shipyard at Barrow.

British Shipbuilders said yesterday that the redundancies would be sought "initially by voluntary procedures and transfers". Talks in London between British Shipbuilders, led by the company's chairman, Mr Graham Day and leaders from the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions broke up tentatively yesterday after three and a half hours.

Union leaders briefed yard delegates and were meeting management again later last night for further talks.

None of the negotiators was available for comment, but the British Shipbuilders' statement said the three yards were without work and were expected to lose £4m between them in the present financial year.

Clelands was the only yard to be involved in serious negotiations for work, but it was for a small order which could only have brought employment for one sixth of the men and would have produced significant losses because "of under-recovery of

## Benn campaign to be tailored for TV

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Wedgwood Benn's Chesterfield by-election campaign is expected to be the first tailored by the Labour Party to the demands of radio and television.

Labour's campaign organizers are set to break with the tradition established by Mr Morgan Phillips, a former party secretary, in the 1960s that priority should be given to the writing press and the daily early morning press conference at which the candidate and other senior party figures hold a question and answer session.

Instead, media gatherings are expected to be organized at different locations in Chesterfield where the potential for good television pictures will be far greater than in the usually dull surroundings of the local Labour Party office.

It was being emphasized last night that such an arrangement would provide ample opportunities for questioning Mr Benn and was not designed to "squeeze out" newspaper journalists.

It was also said that there would be some press conferences attended by Mr Benn and shadow ministers but that, contrary to earlier suggestion, there would be no press conferences at which Mr Benn was not present.

It is denied that the new tactics, if agreed, are designed to protect Mr Benn or the party by preventing detailed questioning on policy issues, although in practice that may prove to be more difficult if there are fewer opportunities for concerted questioning.

## TUC looks at changes in strategy

By Our Labour Editor

Trade union leaders yesterday set in motion a fundamental review of the labour movement designed to win back the authority of the TUC and reverse the trend of falling membership.

The TUC General Council agreed to circulate a discussion paper on future strategy.

Introducing the documents, Mr Len Murray, said that out of the exercise would come a willingness to make changes in trade union structure that are needed to match changes in the pattern of industry.

## Irish beer and petrol prices rise

From Richard Ford, Dublin

The Irish Government yesterday introduced a cautious budget but increased the already high cost of drink, petrol and tobacco.

It also caused surprise by introducing value-added tax at 8 per cent on clothing, except for children under 10.

Social security benefits were increased by 7 per cent and the 25 per cent tax band eliminated, removing 15,000 low income earners from liability. The 35 per cent rate was widened.

Mr Alan Dukes, the Minister for Finance, promised reform of Ireland's tax system.

He said that the country was still in a difficult position and urged workers to keep income expectations at a realistic level, saying the government had made no provisions for pay rises in the public sector this year.

## Radioactive gas risk in home

Action may be needed to combat a radioactive gas, called Radon, that builds up naturally in some homes and can cause lung cancer if breathed over a long period, according to the National Radiological Protection Board.

The radioactive gas seeps into houses from the ground underneath or from building materials. However, a board spokesman said that there was no reason for panic.

He added: "This is not something that has suddenly arisen."

Yet in a report published by the board yesterday, it says: "Natural radiation doses are not always at levels of no concern. Some indoor exposures are high enough to suggest the implementation of control measures."

The gas is most common in granite areas because of the presence of radium in the granite. High levels of the gas have been detected in some parts of Devon and Cornwall and the board is now conducting a national survey.

## Times accused of racism by bishop

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Bishop of Birmingham, Dr Hugh Montefiore, has accused *The Times* of "thinly disguised racism" in criticizing the Queen's Christmas broadcast in a leading article.

Dr Montefiore said at a private function in Sutton Coldfield that the article had seriously misrepresented the Queen's remarks about redistribution of wealth.

Dr Montefiore later told the Press Association his address was also aimed at Mr Enoch Powell, MP for Down South, whose criticism of the Queen's message led to the article in *The Times*.

The Queen had merely asked for more technology to be used by poorer nations to relieve poverty, he said in the Sutton Coldfield speech.

He said: "She is the head of the Commonwealth, and if her critics do not like her definition of it they have not been able to come up with a better one."

As for hearing less about an appropriate sentiment from the only person in four, and of no less than 47 sovereign independent countries?

"I have seldom been so angry as I find myself at this prejudiced and ill-founded attack upon our beloved sovereign. It is thinly disguised racism."



Mr Michael Heseltine, visiting a Raper site during his recent Falklands visit.

## Sappers pulling out of Falklands

From Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent, Port Stanley

One of the great features of British military activity in the Falkland Islands since their recapture from Argentina has been the surge of activity by the Royal Engineers in each of the last two South Atlantic summers.

Around September large numbers of corps members have travelled south to join colleagues who have spent the winter here to take advantage of the good weather for intensive building work.

At present there are about 1,200 sappers, making the largest army contingent on the islands.

Their tasks included repairing and extending the runway at Stanley airport, roadworks and battlefield clearance, and the construction of camps, power stations and sites for radar stations and Raper ground-to-air missiles.

One estimate puts their effort since the end of the fighting at about 700,000 man-days. Explosives disposal experts are believed to have removed about 2,500,000 pieces of ordnance that were lying around the islands, and they have quarried about 400,000 tons of stone, some of it for road making.

Now most of that is to end. From April 1 responsibility for the construction work which the sappers have been doing will be taken over by the Property Services Agency, which is the normal arrangement in most areas where British military forces are stationed.

A step towards disengagement takes place today when ARC Construction becomes responsible for the operation of the quarry near Stanley Airport, which the sappers have been working for 18 months.

There are some qualms within the Army as to whether the agency can take over the construction efficiently in April, and there is a feeling that it is being dilatory in making known its arrangements for the changeover.

## Camera watch on new M25 section

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

A battery of cameras will enable the police to watch every inch of the section of the M25 London orbital motorway through Epping Forest, which opened yesterday.

More than 40 overhead cameras, each capable of being swivelled, raised or lowered, or zoomed in to give close-up views of cars up to 1.5 miles away, are under the remote control of police staff at Chigwell who will receive pictures back by the latest fibre-optic cable.

The system will be extended to cover the 120-mile length of what seems certain to become Britain's busiest, as well as its most important, motorway. Overloading is predicted before the end of the decade.

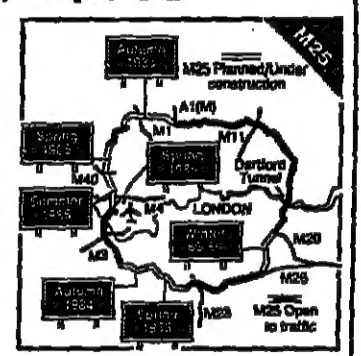
The police emphasized at yesterday's opening by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, that the system will be used initially to monitor and control traffic; but admitted that it could be used for criminal detection, in the same way that cameras and videos are used to film bank robberies.

Other advance equipment on the new stretch, includes ice detectors, powerful fans that operate automatically if fumes build up in the two tunnels, and tunnel lights that dim or brighten automatically to match outside conditions and reduce driver dazzle.

With traffic expected to build up to 100,000 vehicles a day when the congestion, especially the Dartford Tunnel which takes the motorway under the Thames.

Mr Ridley gave no indication yesterday that tunnel tolls would be abolished to speed traffic but one expert predicted that congestion would be so bad by the end of this year that the Government would be forced into doing so.

● The Freight Transport Association commented yesterday: "With no service areas on the M25 drivers face the prospect of an 82-mile drive between the Tiddington services on the M1 and Farningham services on the M2, (the Press Association reports).



## 1981 Civil Service dispute Intelligence efforts were imperilled

By Peter Hennessy

Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet, admitted yesterday that the five-month Civil Service dispute in 1981 seriously imperilled Britain's intelligence efforts. He was speaking at a meeting in the Cabinet Office with the general secretaries of Whitehall unions.

The Government has never published its assessment of the damage inflicted by the dispute three years ago. However, it led to instant and consistent pressure from the Reagan Administration that ministers intervene to restore the intelligence flow.

Under a secret 1946 treaty, Britain and the United States parcel out the world between them for the purposes of gathering signals and electronic intelligence. Its constant supply is deemed vital for the monitoring of the military and diplomatic intentions of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw pact countries.

The National Security Agency, the US equivalent of the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) in Cheltenham, which is to be de-unionized, funded a substantial proportion of the British effort in this expensive, capital intensive branch of espionage. It provides advanced equipment and seconded personnel for Cheltenham's world-wide network of listening posts, known as the Composite Signals Organization. The product is pooled and analysed jointly.

On March 9, 1981, the first day of the dispute, Washington was incensed when a walkout of technicians closed the station on Ascension Island, the West's listening post in the South Atlantic, and the tracking station at Bude in Cornwall. Bude monitors the path of Soviet spy satellites as they pass over the eastern Atlantic and Western Europe, feeding its data to the immensely secret National Reconnaissance Office in Washington.

Sporadic disruption continued for five months. It affected routine intelligence gathering from Scarborough (which listens in to the North Sea and the Baltic), to the UK Sovereign Base in Cyprus and Little San Wan, the Hong Kong station. The biannual exercise, Wintex '81, in which NATO nations simulated the transition to war with the Warsaw Pact was also affected.

Last year the very special intelligence relationship of the last 38 years was strained when the conviction of the former GCHQ linguist, Geoffrey Prime, for spying for Russia.

At the insistence of the Reagan Administration, the British Cabinet was forced to approve the application of lie-detectors, or polygraphs, to members of the security and intelligence agencies. The Civil Service unions objected on civil liberties and efficiency grounds, arguing that US experience showed polygraphs to be highly unreliable.

At a meeting with the unions on July 8, Sir Robert Armstrong insisted that the Government would press ahead with the introduction of a pilot scheme at Cheltenham. However, as the minutes of the meeting record: "He too would not find the use of the polygraph attractive. But the Security Commission [which reported on the Prime affair] said it was the one thing that might have deterred Prime."

The security service, M15, has been very active at Cheltenham since the uncovering of Prime investigating persistent, although as yet unproved, suspicions that he had not acted alone. There have been indications recently that fears are growing that another official was involved and several individuals have been under scrutiny.

Whitehall sources indicate strongly yesterday that the Foreign Secretary's move to remove the GCHQ union's recognition had no connection with the aftermath of Prime or any other present security worries. The decision, stemmed solely from the assessment of the 1981 damage and the Government's determination that the vital raw material of British intelligence shall not be jeopardized again.

The agency employs 10,000 people at Cheltenham and around the world, some 60 per cent of whom belong to unions.

It now seems that the Cabinet has been contemplating such a move for three years. It was decided to wait until the 1983 election was past as it was "such a big step to take".

In the aftermath of Prime, there are unconfirmed reports that M15 has uncovered a small Militant Tendency cell at Cheltenham. It is said to consist of about six people who belong to the Civil and Public Services Association and the Society of Civil and Public Servants.

M15 has also mounted a special investigation into the funding of a one-day conference on polygraphs held at the Festival Hall in London on December 6. The Society of Civil and Public Servants, which organized it, has invited leading anti-polygraph authority from the United States, Professor David Lykken, a psychologist from the University of Minnesota to the conference.

Sir Robert Armstrong tried earlier this month to defuse union hostility to lie-detectors which are to be used at Cheltenham on an experimental basis from April 1. In a letter dated January 9 to the Council of Civil Unions, he wrote: "There is no decision to proceed from that to a scheme for the definitive introduction of the polygraph in security screening. That decision remains entirely open, and will be for consideration when we are in a position to assess and analyse the results of the pilot study."

A union source said last night that opposition to the polygraph would have been likely to crumble eventually at Cheltenham if the Government had stood firm. With the loss of union recognition, he added, resistance to lie-detectors would be redoubled.

GCHQ is the successor organization to the Government Code and Cypher School which it had been estimated in the Second World War shortened the conflict by some 18 months by penetrating the most secret codes and ciphers of the German, Italian and Japanese armed forces.

Since 1945 its efforts have been concentrated on the Soviet Union and its satellites, although other nations such as Argentina, which is a prime target of the Ascension Island station because of the Falklands, constantly watched. It focuses mainly on military and diplomatic traffic, but since the 1970s there has been a growing effort to glean economic and financial information.

The unionization of GCHQ "has added out a mile for years", one insider said yesterday, as M15 and the Secret Intelligence Service, M16, are strictly union-free. Other parts of the intelligence community do contain union members, however, who would be affected if the Cabinet's ban was extended to all security and intelligence areas.

These include civilian members of the 900-strong Defence Intelligence Staff in the Ministry of Defence.

The case of Lieutenant-Colonel John Waite, a former member of GCHQ, who took his demotion on reaching the retiring age of 60 in 1979, to an industrial tribunal has seriously concerned management. He won his case at the tribunal, but was quashed in the Court of Appeal last year, a decision upheld by the House of Lords. Removal of GCHQ personnel from the remit of industrial tribunals was an important element in the Cabinet's decision to bar unions

## Correction

In the final edition on Tuesday it was incorrectly stated that Sir Geoffrey Johnson-Smith, Conservative MP for Wealden, had abstained in the vote on the rate support grant report. He voted with the Government.

## Art funding report rejected

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The Government has wholeheartedly rejected the core of a report from the education, science and arts select committee which proposed radical changes in support for the arts.

A White Paper published yesterday dismissed some of the select committee's key recommendations including the reduction or abolition of value-added tax on theatre tickets, a 20-year development programme, and the creation of a Ministry of Arts Heritage and Tourism with a seat in Cabinet.

The long-awaited government reply is silent on the select committee's call for the film industry to be reshaped with considerable public involvement. The White Paper says that the issue will be tackled by the Department of Trade and Industry review, which is due to report within weeks.

One of the committee's most controversial recommendations was a television levy to finance film production.

The White Paper defends the level of government expenditure.

The rejection of some of the select committee's more adventurous suggestions is hardly likely to surprise art circles, who were somewhat surprised that the select committee report was so favourable.

Public and Private Funding of the Arts, (Crand 9127, Stationery Office, £3.15).

## Strike talks

Peace talks aimed at ending the two-week-old strikes by Sogat '82 clerical workers at Times Newspapers took place last night under the auspices of the Newspaper Publishers Association.

## Villagers emerge from weekend white-out

By Richard Dowden

The weekend blizzards that brought some of the worst weather in living memory to parts of Scotland also brought to the little village of Kingussie, south of Inverness, some 400 stranded travellers.

About 300 of them were from vehicles stuck on the Drumochter pass in the Highlands on the A9 and the rest were from three trains stranded at the station.

"It wasn't the snow itself but the most ferocious gale I have ever experienced," Mr Keith Macfarlane, Director of the Highland Roads and Transport Department in Inverness, said. "The winds were about 100 or 120 miles an hour, bringing in snow. It was a complete white out and we could not move from Saturday night until about 5am on Monday."

But the 1,000 inhabitants of Kingussie and its neighbouring village of Newtonmore are used to winter weather. There was general agreement that the blizzard matched the terrible winter of 1947.

"People stock up early on from before Christmas," Mr Nield Murchies, the owner of the village grocery, said. "They adapt, make their own bread and make do with dried milk if they run out. People are very willing to help one another in times like these."

Another local crofter stranded at Glenalloch, Mr Archie Anderson, brought essential food supplies by an RAF Puma helicopter from RAF Leuchars.

The problems for the rail travellers started at 6pm on Saturday when the Inverness to Edinburgh train had to wait while the points were changed at Dalwhinnie. Its brakes froze and then it would not move.

"They tried to get the Cansman coming up from London to push it but then that one stuck too," Mr Angus Fraser, a railwayman at Kingussie for the past 18 years, said. "Then the 17.35 to Glasgow got stuck and we had to find accommodation for over 100 people at 1am on Sunday."

Meanwhile in the Drumochter pass, 197 vehicles were stranded after a lorry jackknifed and blocked the road. Two snow ploughs, two police Range-Rovers, and two mountain rescue vehicles also got stuck.

As a result more than 300 people trekked to Mr Sandy Anderson's small hunting lodge at Drumochter which usually accommodates nine. The gamekeeper said: "It was standing room only and there was no water."

"Luckily the electricity was working so we were able to keep warm. We just dished out all the food we had and everybody mucked in."

Although most people in the village were able to get to work, many of them at Aviemore holiday and ski centre and those in outlying areas have been snowed up. Mr Philip Cairney, and his wife, and son, aged 12, have been marooned in their cottage at Caibick up Glen Tromie since January 2.

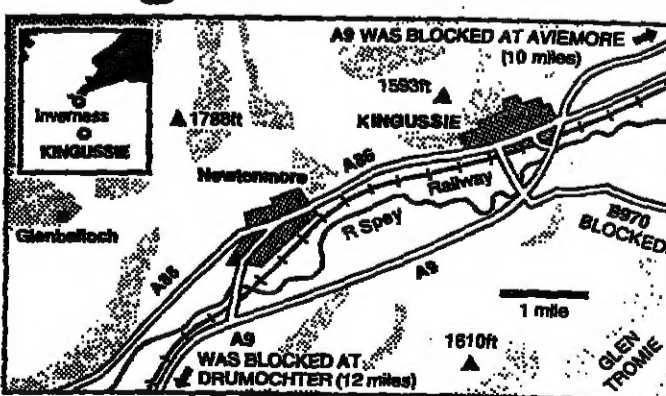
The Kingussie High School, with its 385 pupils, closed for two days at the beginning of the week because two-thirds of the pupils could not get to school.

"What was the reaction?" "What would you expect, jubilation," Mrs Irend Dallas, the school secretary, said.

The 80 men employed by the Roads and Transport Department, based at Kingussie, have been working about 12 to 16 hours a day trying to keep the roads clear.

The Drumochter pass was finally cleared yesterday but it remains closed until all the abandoned vehicles have been removed.

Kingussie's four postmen still arrive for work at 7am but so far this week the trains have not arrived until midday at the earliest so they only have a few hours of daylight to deliver the mail. In any case, many of the roads are blocked.



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## Doctors blamed for putting elderly at risk with 'unnecessary' drugs

By Thomson Prentice, Medical Reporter

Family doctors are strongly criticized by the Royal College of Physicians for the ways in which they prescribe drugs for elderly people. The college has exposed the vulnerability of the elderly to drugs, which may kill rather than cure, and calls for new safeguards among GPs, hospital staffs and the pharmaceutical industry.

In a report published yesterday, the college blames doctors for excessive and sometimes unnecessary prescribing, which leads to elderly patients having too many pills and other medicines. Many patients suffer an "unacceptably high prevalence of adverse drug reactions", many of which are fatal.

Dr Michael Denham, secretary of the colleges working party which compiled the report, said yesterday: "Large numbers of elderly people are going into hospital solely, or largely, due to the drugs they were taking."

"A number of these patients die and a number will not fully recover from the side effects."

The report adds that in March, 1982 more than 10 million prescriptions were dispensed for the elderly. In 1980, elderly people were given twice as many prescriptions as the national average.

"Physicians are frequently placed in a situation in which

they do not want to prescribe drugs but the patient expects medication", the report says. "At other times, they are aware that medication is not the most appropriate treatment for problems such as loneliness and poor housing, but feel that is the best they can offer."

Doctors may also over prescribe because of pressure from drug companies and their travelling salesmen, the report says.

"The doctor's natural desire to treat the many disabilities found in the very old can result in many drugs being given simultaneously. Unfortunately, new therapy is often added piecemeal without considering, questioning, or reviewing the continued need for the earlier medication."

That produces "a daunting collection of tablets which the patient will attempt to take". Impaired compliance and adverse drug reactions and interactions are "natural sequels", the report adds.

"The greatest contribution to reducing incidence of adverse drug reactions in the elderly will be made by the doctor questioning the need for drugs and by stopping all unnecessary medication, otherwise polypharmacy will continue unchecked, and a competent individual may be

turned into a confused, incontinent, bed-bound patient."

One of the results of over-prescribing is hoarding of medicines. A recent campaign in Glasgow for the return of unwanted drugs produces two and a quarter tons of medicines.

A similar campaign in Birmingham recovered more than 330,000 tablets and capsules; that was calculated to be only 3 per cent of the potential total.

Patients may use hoarded drugs for the wrong illness, with "disastrous effects", confuse new prescriptions with old, and risk illness because some drugs deteriorate with age.

Studies in hospitals and the community have shown that as many as 75 per cent of elderly patients make errors in using prescriptions, 25 per cent of which are potentially serious.

The report advises doctors to assess carefully whether patients need more medication, and to simplify the dose and drug regime.

They should try to discover if the patients have understood their explanations, and should give precise information to the pharmacist so medicines can be clearly and correctly labelled.

Patients should be advised of serious adverse drug effects, and doctors should arrange follow-up visits.

## Disabled man opts for civil marriage

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Mr Stephen Rigby, the handicapped former soldier who has received permission for a Roman Catholic church wedding after first being refused, said yesterday he was keeping to his decision to marry in a register office in March.

He was, however, not prepared to attack the church and wanted the church to recognize his marriage.

Despite what had been reported, he told *The Times*: "We are not bitter, we are not angry, we are not confused."

He was refused a church marriage by the Nottingham diocesan marriage tribunal on the ground of sexual impotence, but on Tuesday the Roman Catholic Bishop of Nottingham, Mr James McGuinness, reversed the decision.

Mr Rigby said that as the church did not recognize civil

marriages entered into by its members, the register office ceremony would change nothing in the church's eyes. However, he and his fiancée, Mrs Ilona Eradhu, had decided to ask the church to recognize their marriage later in the year.

Civil marriages can be formalized according to Canon Law and therefore deemed to be valid by the church. Mr Rigby said he was referring to this, although he and his fiancée had not yet discussed it with a priest.

"We shall approach the church and seek a Catholic marriage to make her happy," he added. "I think she deserves it."

Mrs Eradhu is a Roman Catholic, whose former civil marriage was dissolved.

## More eat cheese at breakfast

By David Nicholson-Lord

The traditional British breakfast, criticized for its fat and cholesterol content, is now threatened by the spread of Continental cheese-eating habits.

A survey by Gallup yesterday revealed that 8 per cent of Britons now eat cheese for breakfast, with British cheese the most popular.

The results of the survey, published in the countryside magazine, *Out of Town*, were described as "staggering" by the British Bacon Bureau. A spokesman for Dairy Crest, Britain's biggest cheese producer, speculated that the breakfast bacon rasher might be doomed.

However, the bureau, which said bacon consumption rose marginally last year is launching a campaign next month to publicize the "great British breakfast".

It is being run in conjunction with TV-am. A 16-page colour brochure containing recipes and coupons will be delivered to 11 million homes. Michael Parkinson and others will extol the virtues of the British breakfast.

The British United Provident Association (Bupa) has withdrawn from a plan to build a £7m private hospital for the Oxford Regional Health Authority in the grounds of the John Radcliffe teaching hospital. It would have provided the region with 30 beds for specialist heart surgery, with another 30 for use by Bupa.

The region does not have a full heart surgery service and most patients are transferred to London for operations. It will now consider developing a cardiac surgery unit on its own.

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Three entertainers who are to perform in the gala: (left to right) Susannah York, Joanna Lumley and Liz Robertson

## Switching roles to aid charity

A glittering array of stage talent, many more accustomed to the "legitimate" theatre explained yesterday how they feel about agreeing to perform in a musical charity gala at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, London.

Michael Horden said he was terrified, Joan Greenwood hoped she would get by going "la la" and

Barbara Leigh-Hunt hoped she could get lost in the second row of the chorus.

So far 104 performers have agreed to take part in the show on February 26 in aid of the Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association. They include Judi Dench, Claire Bloom, Dorothy Tutin, Sir John Mills, John

Hurt, Simon Ward and Leonard Rossiter.

Michael Horden, who is 72, is to sing a duet with Joan Plowright from the *Pajama Game* which involves "a bit of a sort of shuffle around". Christopher Reeve, who played the film *Superman*, is to perform a number about Elvis Presley that he had tried out in the United States.

## Warning on cavity-wall insulation defects

By Christopher Warran, Property Correspondent

Damp and rot caused by the wrongly insulated cavity walls could be among the worst housing defects in the 1990s, the National House-Building Council says.

Mr Andrew Tait, the council's director-general, said yesterday that the council, an independent body representing building interests, including building societies and consumer organizations, would advise builders next month on the correct methods for cavity-wall insulation.

Insulation is increasing because builders are encouraged to include it by energy-saving regulations. Timber-framed houses should not have insulation inserted because they are thermally efficient and need their cavities clear for weather protection and ventilation.

Cavity-wall insulation for traditional brick and block houses was perfectly satisfactory if properly done, but it demanded a high degree of skill, Mr Tait said.

## New 'Henry V' to open Stratford season

By Our Arts Correspondent

The Royal Shakespeare Company unveiled plans yesterday for 12 new productions at Stratford and 15 productions at the Barbican during its 1984 season. The season at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre will begin with a new production of *Henry V*, with Kenneth Branagh in the title role. Roger Rees is to return to Stratford to play *Hamlet*, directed by Ron Daniels, and Anthony Sher will take the title role in *Richard III*.

The third Barbican season includes nine Stratford transfers and a revival of the 1940s farce, *The Happiest Days of Your Life*. *Measure for Measure* and *The Comedy of Errors* will be the first two productions.

Judi Dench will return to the RSC after an interval of four years in October when she takes the lead role in Brecht's *Mother Courage*. The company's award-winning production *Poppy* may not make its planned run on Broadway because of opposition by the United States actors' union.

## IBM drive to sell computers to colleges

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

A multi-million pound programme to get IBM computers into British schools, college and universities was announced yesterday by the company, which said it was giving 92 of its personal computers to higher education institutions.

This initiative by the world's largest computer company, which is American-owned, comes at a time when competition for the education computer market is intensifying. Last week, Commodore, an American company, announced that it was offering its equipment at a big discount to schools and colleges.

The most important strand of the IBM initiative is the setting up of an IBM Institute at a cost of more than £2m to work with higher education institutions to ensure that computers are introduced across the curriculum and not just in computer science.

The first project has already been established in the engineering department at Cambridge University to see how computers can aid the teaching of engineering. It is intended that this computer-oriented teaching will become an integral part of the university's Engineering Tripos as well as being used elsewhere.

The second strand of the programme, which will cost £400,000, is the donation of IBM personal computers - the best selling small business computer - to 92 selected universities, colleges and polytechnics.

Finally £800,000 will be spent on sponsoring projects in schools involving the use of IBM personal computers.

Announcing the plans, Sir Edwin Nixon, chairman and chief executive of IBM United Kingdom, said: "Our efforts reflect our belief that preparing students for the information society should be an educational priority."

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## Mortgage rate cut ruled out

By Margaret Drummond

There is little prospect of a cut in the mortgage rate, before the late spring or early summer Mr Roy Cox, chief general manager of the Alliance Building Society, said yesterday in the Alliance's annual results.

Savings have continued to flow in recent months. In December, usually a poor month for the building societies took £800m. But lending is running at £1,000m a month and most societies consider their main task to meet mortgage demand.

The Alliance and Royal Bank of Scotland will launch a joint "Banksave" account on Monday (the Press Association reports). Customers with a minimum current account of £500 will be paid interest at 7.25 per cent net by the building society.

## BBC-ITV satellite gets backing

By Our Arts Correspondent

The Government is likely to encourage the setting up of a joint BBC - independent television direct broadcast satellite service if the two sides can agree details on the partnership within the next two weeks.

The talks, chaired by a senior civil servant, continued between BBC and independent television officials yesterday. The BBC had previously decided to postpone its satellite venture on ground of cost.

A joint satellite venture between the two companies would probably lead to one shared film service and two separate general television channels. All three would only be available to viewers through the payment of a premium. City finance is likely to be sought for the venture.



Mr and Mrs Fewkes: "praying for Ben" yesterday.

## Parents in transplant plea

The parents of a boy whose liver was used to save a boy aged 2 appealed yesterday for families to let doctors use organs for transplant.

Mr Darryl Fewkes, aged 32, and his wife Julie, aged 22, of Fenwick Close, Broxtown, Nottingham, agreed last week to the liver of their son Matthew, aged 2, being used for a transplant when they realized he was going to die.

The boy was seriously ill after an operation to repair defects in his chest and lungs had failed.

His parents found out on Monday that the liver would go

to Ben Hardwick, also aged 2, from Chessington, in Surrey. He was facing death from a rare disease because doctors could not find a liver to transplant. His plight was featured in *That's Life*, the BBC television programme.

Yesterday he was making good progress at Addenbrooke's Hospital, in Cambridge.

Mrs Fewkes said that they made up their minds about the transplant very quickly.

"We are now praying for Ben. He is a very special boy to us, and we hope to go and see him eventually," she said.

## Jacobs bows out

David Jacobs, presenter of the BBC radio programme *Any Questions?* is to leave the show in September, after 16 years as host. John Timpson, co-presenter of the *Today* programme will replace him, combining the two jobs.

## Danish milk ban

Port health authorities at Harwich, Essex have rejected 500 litres of Danish long life milk, even though two identical consignments have been allowed in through Grimsby and North Shields, saying that it contained too much water.



# Alliance fails to establish body to review Act

## Mr. Body New Act

involved, to tell the House whether it really was necessary for resolution to be passed affirming the continuation of this legislation.

It would be as near to a judicial procedure as was reasonable in the circumstances of legislation of this sort.

MR. Enoch Powell (South Down, U.P.) said they did not need the assistance of an outside commission.

The House Secretary should ascertain the new clause, but

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FD-4 News, the National Association of the First Division Association, the top officials' union, brought a set of anonymous quotes from Rayner scrutineers which claim that the 90-day limit for their completion produces mean and crushed and superficial work and that in some cases pressure has been put on investigating officers to recommend cuts.

The association says: "This is a cause for concern. It serves to undermine confidence in the Rayner system, which comes to be seen as a weapon in the cuts armoury rather than a tool to improve Civil Service efficiency and effectiveness."

Sir Robin Ibb, who succeeded Lord Rayner last year as head of the Prime Minister's Efficiency Unit, issued a statement yesterday welcoming the positive spirit of the FDEA survey and its general endorsement of the scrutiny system.

The purpose of scrutineers, Sir

...rights to look for economy; that is good sense. But it is not all. We are dealing here with value-for-money and that means looking at cost at output and service to the citizen."

The FDEA survey noted "there was no real criticism of the Rayner principle" among its members. But it reproduced some frank criticisms.

Its Customs and Excise branch, for example, said the 90-day limit was inflexible and made the scrutiny team more liable to "spoonfeeding" by officials whose work they were investigating.

One civil servant who had worked as a scrutineer spoke of subtle pressure put on him by his superiors to find savings. He found the Management and Personnel Office, which is responsible for administrative economies, "more telling than helpful in many respects."

**PSA reforms challenged**

Radical proposals for the reorganization of the Government's Property Services Agency (PSA) will cost more than double the planned £12m. The estimate rather than cut jobs and increase two years of turmoil, according to six Civil Service

The unions will today meet Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, to present a critique of the reorganization which was prepared by Mr Montague Alfred, the agency chief executive.



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# Israelis unite to condemn Bonn's Saudi deal as history haunts Kohl visit

From Christopher Walker  
Jerusalem

At a time of bitter political polarization in Israel, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's visit has united left and right for the first time in years in denunciation of German plans to sell sophisticated heavy weaponry to Saudi Arabia.

The emotive campaign to persuade Bonn to alter its stance on the proposed arms package has become the focal point of the six-day visit. As a result, it is likely to be the yardstick on which its success will be judged by many Israelis, including those of the post-Holocaust generation.

The 80 German reporters accompanying Dr Kohl have been treated to the rare sight of government and opposition politicians, usually at loggerheads over the economic crisis, united in an appeal, based on Germany's moral obligations arising out of the slaughter of six million Jews.

In articles printed side by side in yesterday's *Jerusalem Post*, two political enemies, Mr Ze'ev Chafetz of the ruling Likud, a former director of the Government press office, and Mr Abba Eban, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, argued the same case.

Only a clear statement by Chancellor Kohl that, despite the economic temptation, he is morally bound not to sell arms to Israel's enemies, will suffice, Mr Chafetz said. "Anything less will mark his trip to Jerusalem as a cynical charade, and his visit to Yad Vashem (the Holocaust memorial) as a shameful and ugly photo opportunity."

Mr Eban, the politician who negotiated the establishment of diplomatic relations with Bonn

## Shamir survives

Mr Shamir's fragile Government survived a no-confidence motion last night after a stormy debate in the Knesset. The Opposition motion was defeated by 62 votes to 56 with one abstention.

When the ethnic Tami Party threatened to quit the coalition over budget cuts, Mr Shamir cancelled a meeting with Chancellor Kohl to consult hastily with coalition partners, including the Tami leader, Mr Aharon Abutzeira. Minutes before the vote, Mr Abutzeira announced he had joined the pledges he was seeking.

Two decades ago, argued the proposed sale would be seen as an interruption in the German-Jewish dialogue. "Seldom has a nation had an opportunity to win higher satisfaction by a smaller renunciation than that which the German leadership enjoys today," he said.

In the Knesset, Dr Kohl yesterday met a delegation of 13 Jewish Deputies from the Likud and Labour opposition. Each of the Israeli speakers emphasized the need for the German Government to drop its plans to sell to the Saudis.

Mr Yehuda Ben-Meir, the former Deputy Foreign Minister, said afterwards: "All the members, irrespective of party affiliation, expressed the seriousness, from the moral and political point of view, if the sale went ahead. We emphasized the dangers to Israeli-German relations if German arms were once again aimed against Jewish boys with the intention of killing them."

Although diplomats believe

plans for the sale are well advanced, Mr Ben-Meir said Dr Kohl had told the group no decision had been made. He was also reported to have pointed out that other countries, like America, had much larger arms commitments to Saudi Arabia.

Throughout the second day of the visit, deliberate reminders of the Holocaust continued to dog the German party at every stage of its hectic programme. In the Knesset, one Deputy waved a large yellow star as Dr Kohl watched from the public gallery. A number of others refused to take their seats.

Mr Menachem Hacoen, the Labour backbencher who waved the replica of the Nazi star, also voiced a biblical protest at Dr Kohl's presence.

Against this emotional background, the Chancellor yesterday again met Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister who rejected all Dr Kohl's suggestions for progress in the deadlocked Middle East peace process.

Dr Kohl had suggested the EEC's Venice Declaration, with its mention of Palestinian self-determination, the Reagan plan and the Arab Boycott as possible ways forward. But an Israeli official said Mr Shamir had dismissed all three as non-starters, offering instead the Camp David agreement as the only viable avenue to peace.

Mr Shamir told Dr Kohl that the plans mentioned in his strongly-worded speech on Tuesday were "foreign to the Arab ideas" which Israel rejected. Officials denied that the fundamental disagreement over peace in the Middle East had upset the atmosphere of the talks.

## Mitterrand scolds his rebellious farmers



Rebellious French farmers yesterday continued their acts of sabotage such as blocking trains as President Mitterrand again warned them that violence would not be tolerated (AFP reports).

The crowd of train travellers pictured above near Rennes in Brittany had to get out and

walk yesterday after farmers blocked rail lines with lorries in protest at lower prices and transportation costs.

Mitterrand was reviewing French agriculture at the weekly Cabinet meeting in Paris. "Either you are out of the Common Market or you are inside, and everyone has to

accept the Community rules," he said. "It is for the farmers and their leaders to demonstrate this, and not to pretend that we can settle the problems on their own."

"To convey that the French Government on its own can do monetary compensatory

amounts (MCA's) is untrue and absurd, and those who spread such illusions lack civic spirit and courage."

"Overall, and the Farmers' leaders know it, the Common Market has been beneficial for French farming, even if not all categories have gained in the same way."

## Only 55 days left to save EEC from financial collapse

From Ian Murray, Brussels

There are only 55 days left, including weekends and holidays, to save the EEC from collapse. That is the pessimistic view of a growing number of Brussels diplomats who are becoming increasingly alarmed at the very slow pace of negotiations since France took over the presidency of the Council of Ministers at the start of the year.

Britain is particularly anxious to inject more urgency into the snail-paced bargaining.

The agricultural ministers, who have the most technical and difficult role, have yet to reopen their dossiers, which were shut at the Athens summit more than six weeks ago. Like the foreign ministers, who met for six hours this week for their first session of this year, they have done little more than discuss procedures and time tables.

Those time tables are beginning to look hopelessly inadequate. Both sets of ministers have only three scheduled meetings before the European summit in Brussels on March 19 and, if past form is anything to go by, they will spend little more than a day actually working on the dossiers on each occasion.

President Mitterrand began

his series of informal talks by seeing Mrs Margaret Thatcher last Monday, but absolutely nothing emerged from that meeting.

There is no reason to think that he will be any more forthcoming after his meeting with Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany next Thursday and the first hope of hearing him report on progress will be when he makes a speech during the following week. By then the summit will be only five weeks away.

British concern is growing that France still cherishes the misconception that there can be room for compromise on the two main British claims - a fairer permanent budget for all and an economically controlled agriculture policy. Mr Cheysson, the French Minister of Agriculture, said at Athens that a short term budget deal was all that was necessary, while the violence of French farmers is making it increasingly difficult for President Mitterrand to agree to any meaningful reforms on agriculture without committing political suicide.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, repeated for the umpteenth time in Brussels on Monday that these two

conditions were just not negotiable.

Britain is also despairing of ever overcoming the argument that it wants to get as much back from the EEC as it pays into it. No matter how many times British negotiators at every level go on repeating that Britain remains prepared to be a net contributor, even though it is a poorer country than several who receive money, that charge sticks. Britain stands condemned of anti-community behaviour.

Mrs Thatcher is not one to be shamed into backing down and she is probably prepared to see the March summit be as big a failure as the Athens summit before she would give way on the two central issues. Were this to happen it would be difficult to find a majority in the European Parliament to unblock the £457m rebate due to Britain, which Mrs Thatcher has insisted must be paid by the end of the British financial year on March 31.

With that rebate frozen the domestic pressure on Mrs Thatcher to withhold payments from the Community and to accelerate its plunge into bankruptcy would become irresistible.

## Crocker flies to see Botha

From Michael Heresby  
Johannesburg

The United States has stepped up efforts to achieve a ceasefire in Southern Angola and thus open the way to an agreement on Namibian independence, with the announcement that Dr Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, is visiting Cape Town for talks tomorrow with Mr R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister.

Dr Crocker's mission, part of a tour of African and European capitals, follows a flurry of diplomatic activity last week and over the weekend in Cape Verde, in which American, South African, Angolan and Portuguese officials were involved at various times.

Mr Frank Wisner, Dr Crocker's deputy, said on Tuesday: "We are in the middle of sensitive negotiations aimed at securing peace in Southern Africa. We prefer not to say anything more on this now."

The main purpose of the American initiative appears to be to keep alive the South African proposal for a 30-day trial ceasefire in Southern Angola from January 31.

The South Africans would disengage their forces from the area provided the Angolans prevented the 20,000 Cuban troops estimated to be in Angola and the Swapo guerrillas also based there from taking advantage of the situation.

Swapo - the South West Africa People's Organisation - has been fighting for 17 years for self-rule in Namibia.

The Angolans said the South Africans must drop their demand for removal of Cuban troops from Angola as a condition for granting independence to Namibia.

The Americans appear to hope that if a ceasefire could be achieved, without reference to other points of disagreement, it could create a climate of greater trust and confidence in which the Cuban issue and other problems could be solved more easily.

Dr Crocker's talks with Mr Botha begin tomorrow afternoon and are likely to continue through supper. Mr Botha has promised to burn the midnight oil if required. They may also meet on Saturday. On Sunday Dr Crocker is due to leave for Zambia.

Washington hopes As Dr Crocker left Washington yesterday, US officials expressed cautious optimism (Nicholas Ashford writes).

A "window of opportunity" for a settlement had been opened by South Africa's ceasefire offer, they said.

## Argentina urged to hold ex-rulers

Buenos Aires (Reuters) - A presidential commission inquiring into the fate of thousands of missing people has urged the government to stop former military rulers and high-ranking officials leaving Argentina.

The commission's appeal applies to Presidents and members of the military juntas that ruled Argentina from 1976 until democracy was restored in December. It also wants the ban to include interior ministers and military commanders of that period.

The 10-member commission said that the testimony of the former rulers could be decisive in discovering the fate of thousands of people who vanished during the "dirty war" in the 1970s.

## French protest at Sun jokes

Paris - Some 30 French union journalists occupied the British Consulate in Bordeaux yesterday to protest against an alleged anti-French campaign in *The Sun*.

They left peacefully nearly an hour later after consul officials had summoned the police. The British newspaper has been running a competition for the best French jokes.

## Korchnoi ahead

Amsterdam (Reuters) - Viktor Korchnoi of Switzerland went into a 4-3 lead over Soviet grandmaster Aleksandr Belyavski in the Hoogovens chess tournament, beating Fedor Nikolic (Yugoslavia) in an adjourned sixth round game. Belyavski drew with Sweden's Ulf Andersson. Tony Miles (Britain) beat John Van Der Wiel (Holland).

Standings: 1. Korchnoi 7pts, 2. Belyavski 6.5pts, 3. Miles, Nikolic and Van Der Wiel 5pts, 6. Hubner, Andersson, Adorjan, Raz, Tukmakov 4.5pts.

## Editor freed

Paris - M Jean Durieux, the deputy editor of *Paris Match* magazine, was jailed last Thursday because he refused to reveal his sources in connexion with a case involving a theft from police archives. He has been released on 50,000 franc (£4,000) bail on the orders of the Paris Court of Appeal.

## Off the menu

Hongkong (Reuters) - A specially chartered ferry ferried 16 endangered animals including a python and eagle, and from the tables of Hongkong's gourmet restaurants, back across the border into China yesterday. Most were destined for restaurants illegally specializing in exotic dishes such as monkey brains and bear paws.

## Death plunge

Rio de Janeiro (AFP) - At least nine people were killed when a bus carrying militant members of the opposition Democratic Labour Party plunged into a ravine on the São Paulo road just outside here.

## Women freed

Berlin (Reuters) - Two members of an East German "Women's Group" were jailed on December 12 after meeting a Western disarmament campaigner have been freed, friends said. They are Ulrike Poppe and Riechel Bohley.

## Warsaw order

Warsaw - A court here has ordered the local prosecutor's office to reopen its investigation into the death of Grzegorz Przemyk, the 18-year-old student who died last May of internal injuries after allegedly being beaten while in police custody.

## Man posted

Sydney (Reuters) - Mr Andrew Harper, celebrating his 50th birthday, was nearly bound and gagged with stamps stuck on his feet, and posted down a chute at Sydney's main post office. Police were called to the rescue.

## Cologne professor dies after lecture shooting

From Our Correspondent, Bonn

A Cologne University professor died yesterday after being shot in the head on Tuesday by a former woman student armed with five replica muzzle-loaded percussion pistols. Another professor, slightly wounded, was later discharged from hospital.

Professor Hermann Gräbe, aged 49, was fatally wounded when the woman, identified only as Sabine G., aged 32, walked into a lecture room, brandishing two pistols and fired one at him at close range. He was hit in the left temple and collapsed.

Professor Johanna Maier, aged 51, the director of the university's Institute for Jewish Studies, was slightly wounded in the head when he appeared in the room after hearing the shooting. But he and another

professor were able to overpower the woman and hold her until police arrived.

A Cologne police spokesman said yesterday: "The woman has confessed to the shootings. But she is refusing to make any other statement, and we do not yet know her motives. We are continuing to question her."

The woman, who is a graduate in Jewish studies and was working in the university library, was examined by a psychiatrist yesterday. The police spokesman said she did not appear to be any indications of mental imbalances.

She had driven to the institute in a hired minibus in which police later found five more replica pistols and a gas pistol. The spokesman added: "All the weapons were loaded."

## D'Aubuisson blames US for Salvador troubles

From Our Correspondent, San Salvador

A fiercely anti-Communist presidential candidate, Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, said the United States was as responsible as the Soviet Union for "the problems that lash El Salvador".

Major D'Aubuisson, likely to be El Salvador's next president, said both superpowers were using the Salvadorean people as guinea pigs for experiments being conducted "without our permission".

"The United States is playing at being defender of liberty. They are providing arms and money for the conflict and we, the Salvadorean people, are providing our blood, the destruction of our people and our country."

Major D'Aubuisson was speaking on Tuesday on the same podium as the other five candidates in elections to be held on March 25. It was a peculiarly "well-behaved" event, in the context of the terror which has characterized political life in El Salvador for the past fifty years, said the arbiter of the unprecedented forum.

Major D'Aubuisson's leading rival for the presidency, former president José Duarte, a Christian democrat, saw the causes of El Salvador's agony not in terms of superpower expansion-

## World grain surplus is forecast

By John Young  
Agriculture Correspondent

A renewed world grain surplus this year, and an end to the recent recovery in market prices, were forecast yesterday by Mr Daniel Amstutz, the US Under Secretary of Agriculture.

Mr Amstutz, who was in London for talks with Soviet officials, said that, although the Russians were committed to purchasing 9 million tons this year under the latest long-term agreement signed last year, he did not expect that they would need to buy the full 22 million tons available from the United States.

The 1983 Soviet crop was much improved over the previous year, forecasts for this year were favourable and the United States' share of Soviet imports was down to about 25 per cent from more than 70 per cent in 1979, the last year before President Carter's embargo.

With the ending of the payment in kind programme, under which farmers were encouraged to leave land unplanted, the American wheat harvest was likely to be at least 10 million tons above last year, Mr Amstutz said.



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## The Kiessling Affair Ministry defends trip by Swiss editor to Bonn

From Michael Blayton  
Bonn

With painful embarrassment, the Ministry of Defence yesterday defended its decision to fly a publisher of a Zurich homosexual magazine to Bonn last week to discuss his claims that General Ginter Kiessling had had sexual relations with a Düsseldorf male prostitute.

The ministry insisted that since General Kiessling, dismissed from his post as NATO's deputy Supreme Commander last month for alleged visits to homosexual bars in Cologne, had demanded a disciplinary hearing to clear his name. The Ministry was thus obliged to consider all evidence relating to the case.

The Government has confirmed that Herr Alexander Ziegler, a Swiss author and publisher of a magazine called *De und Ich*, spent four and a half hours at the Ministry of Defence last Friday where he detailed his claim to have a tape recording of the prostitute asserting he had had sexual relations with General Kiessling in 1979. Herr Manfred Werner, the Defence Minister, was present for part of the meeting, as well as Herr Waldemar Schreckenberger, from the Chancellor's office, who heard the whole statement.

The press has expressed astonishment at this latest twist in the affair, and has given prominence to the calls by the retired General Gerd Schmuckle, General Kiessling's predecessor at NATO, that Herr Werner should resign. He said it was appalling that the minister should receive Herr Ziegler as a witness and yet not talk to General Kiessling.

Political commentators have said it was "ridiculous and grotesque" for the Ministry to try to find conclusive proof for the sacking of General Kiessling after the event. Herr Walter Kolbow, the Social Democratic deputy chairman of the parliamentary committee of inquiry, which begins work today, said when Herr Werner began "fishing" homosexuals from abroad, he was close to activating the election seat to Herr Kiessling from office.

General Kiessling, who has repeatedly denied being homosexual and is suing Herr Werner to clear his name, yesterday denied Herr Ziegler's claims.



Herr Ziegler. Detailed claim of prostitute tape.

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## Hongkong talks resume

Peking (AFP) - Sino-British talks on the future of Hongkong resumed here yesterday with increasing evidence that progress has been made in seven months of negotiations.

Both sides have new heads of delegation at the talks on the British colony over which China plans to reassert sovereignty in 1997.

Mr Zhou Nan, the assistant Chinese Foreign Minister, took

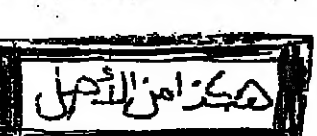
over from Mr Yao Guang, Vice Foreign Minister, while the British team was led by Sir Richard Evans, Britain's new ambassador to Peking, who replaced Sir Percy Cradock.

Mr Zhou said he hoped for "very good cooperation" with Sir Richard, who expressed his wish for "useful and constructive talks today, tomorrow and hereafter."

The pro-Government newspaper, *L'Opinion*, said the decree would be debated by Parliament when it reconvenes, but until then, has the force of law. Parliament is due to assemble in April after a general election.

The country was reported calm yesterday.

● TUNIS: The Government yesterday lifted the curfew imposed at the beginning of January after the riots (AFP reports) but the state of emergency, also declared on January 3, remains in effect.





## Dockyards deal with Britain dominates poll in Gibraltar

From Richard Wigg, Gibraltar

The people of Gibraltar vote today in a general election which is being seen as a virtual referendum on the deal worked out with Britain to turn the Royal Navy's former dry docks into a commercial enterprise from next January 1.

In the present harsh economic climate everything turns on the issue of redundancies among the voters. Some 770 dockyard workers already know they will be dismissed, signalling a sea change for the Rock's tiny economy, which has been dependent for centuries on spending by the Services.

Sir Joshua Hassan, the Chief Minister, has been fighting his toughest campaign in 20 years, defending last year's agreement with Mrs Margaret Thatcher to bring in Appleford International to manage the commercial dry docks operation, as "the only way ahead". This is the slogan of his centrist Gibraltar Labour Party, in what has been dubbed the "dockyard election" here.

Sounding defensive and looking tired, Sir Joshua, aged 68, told Gibraltar's 16,000 eligible voters that the Rock's uncertain economic future, aggravated by the only partial opening of the frontier with Spain, is the principle reason for his staying on in public life.

"It would have been comfortable to let other people fight this election. But I have obtained a very fair package and I feel a duty to see it implemented over the next four years. No one could have obtained a better deal", Sir Joshua told the voters in his last television address.

Sir Joshua has been adamant that he will not form a coalition government, so that his party faces the uphill task of winning eight seats in the 15-seat House of Assembly as it did in 1980. Sir Joshua clearly stakes everything on Gibraltar's clinging to his proven leadership in times of crisis.

But the Rock's two opposition forces maintain that the £28m British Government deal with Gibraltar for the docks' commercialization is not the viable alternative promised in the 1981 Defence White Paper.

Mr Peter Isola, leader of the Democratic Party of Gibraltar (which six seats in the last Assembly) has pledged that if he wins he will renegotiate the deal with Britain. He says Gibraltar needs a further £5m to help its economy to diversify.

Mr Joe Bossano, head of Gibraltar's Socialist Labour Party, fighting as trade union leader a tailor-made election, campaigned as if he would send Appleford packing and draw up, locally, alternative dockyard conversion plans, but financed by the £28m aid from Britain.

Three independents are contesting the election and if one gets in it might save Gibraltar from the distinct possibility of a hung parliament.



Sir Joshua Hassan: Fighting toughest campaign

## Thousands of Burmese flee fighting

From Our Correspondent Bangkok

In the heaviest fighting for 10 years between Burmese government forces and rebels in north eastern Burma, clashes continued for the fourth day yesterday after 6,000 Burmese civilians fled into Thailand to escape the violence.

Loyal Thai officials have sent messages to the Burmese authorities urging them to restrict the fighting, which threatens to spill over into Thailand.

A Thai Supreme Command spokesman said 20 Burmese shells had landed in Thailand, damaging houses, schools and a police station. Unconfirmed reports say some Thai villagers have been killed and wounded.

The current campaign is against the largely Christian Karens, who have been in rebellion since Burma became independent 36 years ago, and is the most sustained in a decade, according to Thai border officials.

They say the battle began with three days of artillery and mortar bombardment of rebel positions at Mae Taw Wah, a town 100 miles north of Mae Sot, an important Thai centre on the border, and the rebels second biggest stronghold. Phosphorous shells set alight the market and destroyed it, together with 300 surrounding houses.

## Prince on God's will

## Swazi women lectured on see-through clothes

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A stern warning to the women of Swaziland to observe greater modesty in their dress has been issued by Prince Bhekimphe Dlamini, the Prime Minister, in a policy speech to the new members of Parliament elected in a complicated tribal process towards the end of last year.

The Prime Minister urged women to "throw away" slacks, mini-skirts and see-through clothes and "buy decent clothing to wear in public". He noted that in Malawi "people are stopped at the airport if they wear such clothing and are told to buy acceptable clothes before they enter the country and mix with the people".

Prince Bhekimphe did not say whether similar regulations were to be introduced in Swaziland, but he seemed to hint at it. In his own childhood in northern Swaziland, fairly strict sartorial rules have been in force for some time.

The Prime Minister also took a dim view of women's liberation, saying: "While we want our women in Swaziland to progress in all sectors of our institutional life, they must respect men and know their place in society as women."

"If you think it is right that women should lead the way, then let it be, but leave one thing from me: God created men and then created women from the man's rib. It was

## Ethiopians accused of aid charade

By Henry Stanhope Diplomatic Correspondent

Ethiopia has been forcing people to pose as refugees to earn more than £14m in aid from the United Nations and other bodies, it was alleged in London yesterday.

On one occasion the pilot of aircraft with relief workers on board saw a column of 2,000 villagers being marched back home after taking part in this charade, according to Lord Avebury, the Liberal peer.

It was one of a number of bogus schemes which the Government in Addis Ababa had used to extract money and goods from the West, he said. He also accused it of embezzling food intended for refugees by diverting it to the army.

"It is the accepted wisdom that this is the price we have to pay to lure the Ethiopians away from the Soviet block. If this is correct it is too high a price to pay, and the oppressed people of Eritrea and Ethiopia are paying it, not us," he said at a meeting to launch the Horn of Africa Committee, which has been set up to focus public attention on this part of the world.

Lord Avebury accused the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees of having double-crossed Ethiopian refugees in Djibouti by forcing them to be repatriated, although there was no evidence that any of them wanted to go.

## Russia tries to bring Romania in line

From Richard Owen Moscow

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, is to visit Romania next week for talks on controversial Soviet block issues, including Warsaw Pact entry on nuclear missiles and failure to agree on an economic summit.

A statement by Tass said Mr Gromyko, who met Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State last week in Stockholm in the first high level Soviet-American encounter for six months, would visit Bucharest at the end of this month. It gave no precise dates.

Romania, a maverick member of the Warsaw Pact, does not allow military manoeuvres on its territory and has repeatedly called for the elimination of nuclear weapons in both East and West. Last month, Romania boycotted a meeting of Soviet block ideological party secretaries in Moscow.

Mr Gromyko's talks with Romanian leaders come at a time when Moscow is seeking maximum Soviet block unity after the opening of the Stockholm disarmament conference. Deputy prime ministers of the Soviet block countries have been meeting in Moscow this week to discuss a long delayed Comecon summit due to be held at the end of next month. The summit is in doubt due to President Andropov's continuing illness.

The Soviet press yesterday avoided comment on the prospect for a Soviet block summit to discuss East-West issues but said Comecon had prepared a series of economic agreements which might be ratified at a future Comecon summit.



Peace quest: Mr Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister (left) on a peace mission to Prague, with his son Sacha and Mr Labomir Strougal, the Czechoslovak Prime Minister.

day that Comecon was preparing to coordinate Soviet block agriculture in accordance with last October's Berlin meeting, but denied that this amounted to an "emergency package" designed to salvage agriculture in Eastern Europe.

## Argentina high on agenda as Thatcher flies to Rome

From Peter Nichols Rome

Mrs Margaret Thatcher arrives here tonight for a round of talks colourfully described as normal, bilateral consultations, which, nevertheless may prove unexpectedly stimulating.

Apart from the perennial questions of the British contribution to the Community budget and ways which Europeans can impose themselves more effectively on Washington, the Italians propose a close look at the Polish situation, a thorough review of the multinational force in Lebanon and a study of the sign of possible improvement in British relations with Argentina.

In this last field, Signor Bettino Craxi, the Prime Minister, sees a special role for Italy. There is no question yet of mediation, but Italian govt offices will be available to help improve matters.

On Tuesday Signor Craxi received Señor Daniel Caputo, the Argentine Foreign Minister, for private talks. The Italians are aware that sovereignty over the Falklands is not yet a point for discussion, but they believe it is time steps were taken, unilaterally if necessary, to change the psychological climate.

Such change would help public opinion on both sides to envisage moves aimed at reestablishing more normal relations. Given the strong ties Italy has with Argentina, Signor Craxi sees a chance for a role, and his associates feel his relationship with Mrs Thatcher

## Naples elects mayor

Signor Franco Picardi, Social Democrat, has been elected Mayor of Naples, frequently described as the most uncomfortable chair in Italy (Our Rome Correspondent writes).

His predecessor, Senator Maurizio Valenzi, a Communist who held the post for eight years, showed Signor Picardi to his seat and said: "I do not envy you." The new mayor leads a minority administration and is expected to call elections once he has managed to win approval for a budget.

is based on a common sense of realism.

Talks on the future of the multinational force in Lebanon are seen to turn on two main points. One is that the moment is now past when it was supposed that three of the four contributing countries and perhaps all, were near to a decision to withdraw because of the change in the task facing them.

There is now a feeling that the troops will have to remain, but that means a strategy must be devised to make their presence constructive.

The Italians are "restructuring their force, which means diminishing somewhat the total, but making it more effective. They remain the largest component of the force." The Americans, as one official said, "have more bombs, but we have more men there."

The second point about Lebanon concerns the appraisal

the British and Italians make of Syrian intentions. The Italians believe that President Assad feels time to be on his side: he can well expect to outstay the multinational force.

Signor Craxi is in communication with him, but there is no clear idea of what Syrian intentions really are. They could be territorial and, in particular, aimed at regaining the Golan Heights from Israel or aimed more at increasing Syria's relative weight in the Arab world because of its prominence in Lebanese affairs.

In another sphere, Poland will form part of the problem of relations with the East, brightened in the Italian as well as the British view by President Reagan's latest statement.

There will be a special contribution from Signor Craxi, who has been briefed on the talks last week between the Pope and Cardinal Glemp, the Polish Primate. The Vatican has told him that diplomatic relations could well be established this year with Poland.

Rome and the cardinal have, however, imposed a condition that, in the interim, the church's role in Poland's national life be clearly defined.

Mrs Thatcher's talks with Signor Craxi will last for little more than half a day. She arrives tonight with four members of the Cabinet. They will be guests at a dinner given by Signor Craxi at Castel Sant'Angelo.

The principal talks will take place tomorrow. In the afternoon Mrs Thatcher will see President Pertini before flying back to London.

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22	22	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
23	23	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
24	24	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
25	25	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
26	26	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
27	27	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
28	28	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
29	29	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
30	30	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
31	31	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
32	32	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
33	33	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
34	34	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
35	35	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
36	36	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
37	37	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
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41	41	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
42	42	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
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58	58	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
59	59	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472
60	60	1,207	1,048	531	2,786	2,800	2,420	1,252	6,472

\*These gross premiums will never increase. The net premium will change only if the Government alters the rate of tax relief (now 10%). You are entitled to immediate tax relief if the premiums are paid by you or your spouse, and the policy is a resident of the UK. However, tax relief is limited to the insurance premiums totalling £1,500 a year or one-sixth of the policyholder's income whichever is highest. This is based upon the Company's understanding of the current law and related Finance practices.

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## Japanese budget gives priority to aid and defence

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

The Japanese Government yesterday approved an austere national budget draft for fiscal 1984, starting April 1, which gives priority, though on a modest scale, to defence and foreign aid and squarely places the burden on consumers and business.

The focal point of last-minute haggling was defence, an area in which Japan's ally, the United States, has exerted strong pressure for increased spending. Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister, has been more receptive to raising the nation's profile in defence than his predecessors.

In a hair-splitting compromise, Mr Nakasone gave the defence agency a 6.55 per cent rise for fiscal 1984, to 2,935 billion yen, slightly above 1983's 6.5 per cent rise and just within the still politically sensitive Cabinet guideline holding defence spending to 1 per cent of gross national product. Though this is more sleight of hand than a reflection of actual spending (by Nato calculations Japan is above 1 per cent already), Mr Nakasone is unprepared to breach that barrier.

But overall, the 50,627 billion yen budget expanded only 0.5 per cent compared with 1983's original, a point which should assure Americans that Japan is at least serious about the defence question.

The budget authorizations will allow the Defence Agency to order 17 more F15 fighter jets, eight P3C patrol aircraft and three escort destroyers. This is less than requested but more than budget officials wanted to allow. Japan is running behind on its medium-term defence build-up programme which is based on a now dated outline drawn up in 1976.

Official development aid was designated as the other exception to total austerity. The Foreign Ministry won a 9.5 per cent rise.

General expenditure slipped (by 0.1 per cent) for the first time in 29 years as the Finance Ministry cut all but essential spending needs to cut back on deficit covering bond issues. Even so, a quarter of the budget will be funded by bonds.

Budget austerity will be felt most sharply by the general public. To fund a moderate income tax reduction - promised by Mr Nakasone in his election campaign in December - the Government increased taxes on a wide range of daily consumer items, and put up rates on such basic services as national medical insurance.

Companies will also be forced to absorb a "temporary" rise in corporate taxes by 1.3 per cent over the already heavy 42 per cent rate currently levied by the national government.



Diamond wedding: Emperor Hirohito, aged 82, and Empress Nagako, who is 80, looking through a photograph album on the eve of their sixtieth wedding anniversary today.

## Abortion Bill clash threatens Soares

From Our Correspondent, Lisbon

The abortion debate which opened in the Portuguese Parliament yesterday is threatening to break up the Socialist-Social Democratic coalition led by Dr Mario Soares, the Prime Minister.

The Social Democrats strongly oppose the abortion Bill presented to Parliament in January by their Socialist partners. This would permit abortion in the case of rape

as a leader of the left. He can expect the backing of the Communists to pass it. On the other hand, he has said publicly that he will not continue as Prime Minister if the coalition splits and the Social Democrats withdraw from the Government, even though his Socialist Party continues to govern.

The Catholic Church has vigorously opposed the Bill.

when an official complaint has been lodged, when the mother's life is in danger or when there is a malformation of the fetus. The time limit for an abortion would be 12 weeks. The majority of the Social Democrats are Catholics who do not accept any cause for abortion. Some political observers believe Dr Soares hopes the passage of the Bill will refurbish his somewhat tarnished image

## Tamils wary and distrustful

## Bridging an ethnic chasm

This is the last of three reports by Michael Hamlyn, South Asia Correspondent, on Sri Lanka after the communal violence.

A sturdy looking Tamil in a refugee camp on the outskirts of Jaffna turned out to be a former air force engineer, and had quit the forces during the July troubles last year and run to the north.

We spoke of his prospects for employment - not bright - and then considered what would happen to the country if the all-party talks then continuing in Colombo should break down.

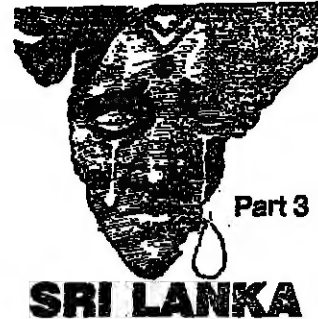
"The future is", he said, and his eyes glittered, "that we want arms."

A few miles away at the campus of Jaffna University a student explained that it was not long since the Sinhalese Government changed the rules for university entry from straight merit to a mixture of racial and other rules that effectively reduced the Tamil

intake. He dated the growth of the Tamil terrorist groups from that moment. The young people, instead of being admitted to higher education, took to the gun.

"Since the attacks on Tamil students in the south," he added, "at least 90 have disappeared to join the terrorists."

Meanwhile down in Colombo a sensible and civilized Sinhalese explained: "Sri Lanka is the only place where Sinhala is spoken. Tamil is in no danger: there are 50 million people speaking it in India. We must



SRI LANKA

do all we can to protect our language and the Buddhist religion."

It was Sri Lanka which gave its fairy-tale name (Serendip) to serendipity, the ability to go through life making happy and accidental discoveries. But as time has passed a solution to the dreadful ethnic rivalry between the two ancient peoples of the island has become more and more difficult. Attitudes are now dangerously polarized.

Ever since Sinhalese politicians found at the time of independence that the way to political power was to pander to Sinhala chauvinism the disabilities heaped upon the Tamils have grown. The Tamils are now wary and distrustful.

"There have been a number of talks in the past which have resulted in bitter disappointment for us," a Tamil civil servant said. "The most recent was the sell-out over the district development councils. We cooperated fully in setting them up, and tried to make them work, only to find that they were cynically undermined, and we were less well off with them than with centralized government."

And yet there are some hopeful signs. The Tamil politicians have gone into the talks prepared to negotiate again. They have even indicated that they are prepared to give up the idea of separation if they can be given something to guarantee their security and the integrity of their lands.

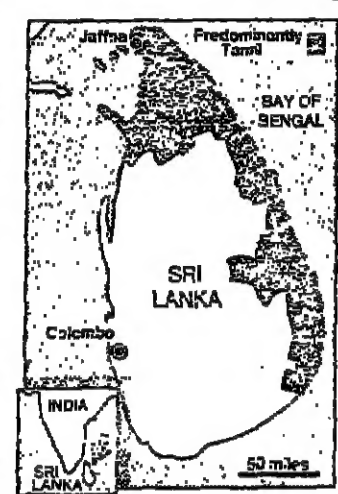
The Buddhist monks, who are represented at the round table talks and who are widely, though not necessarily accurately, regarded as the most chauvinist group there, are urging non-violence all round. They have promised the Tamil leaders that something can be done to increase their security.

Another hopeful sign is the international dimension of the situation - the interest that India is taking in the talks, and the apparent success that Mrs Gandhi's special envoy, Mr Gopalaswami Parthasarathy, has had in persuading the Sri Lankan Government and its opposition rivals to sit down together. It is also suggested in diplomatic circles that the President, Mr J. R. Jayewardene, has been handling affairs with more confidence since the visit to his office of the US Secretary of Defence, Mr Caspar Weinberger, and the long chat he had with the American special envoy, General Walker.

But the most hopeful sign of all is the virtual impossibility of creating an independent Tamil state as envisaged by the Tamil separatists. The Tamils have in mind to separate the northern and eastern provinces into a state they propose to call Tamil Eelam. But a glance at the map would show them the impracticality of establishing and defending a border that would wander across the countryside - following no natural boundary - for 300 to 400 miles.

If the worst came to the worst and the Tamils did establish a precarious independence, it would have to be restricted to the northernmost part of the island. There they would necessarily be worse off than they are now. If, however, they can establish some form of regional autonomy for the northern and eastern provinces by peaceful discussion they must be better off.

Concluded



## Sinhalese quit talks

From Our Correspondent, Colombo

The all-party conference on the problems of the Tamil minority suffered a setback on Tuesday when the three representatives of Sinhalese organizations who staged a temporary walk-out last Friday, withdrew from the conference.

At the same time, however, three representatives of the Ceylon Sinhalese Buddhist organizations, who had claimed that they had been kept out of the original delegation of the Sinhalese organizations because of "the intervention of some external forces" were admitted, and were regarded as being representative of the Sinhalese organizations.

The three Sinhalese representatives who walked out have sent a letter to President Jayewardene, saying that the conference should first identify the real problems of the various communities before seeking a solution. But they conceded that the problems of the Tamils should be given priority.

They also stated their opposition to the proposals contained in a document placed before the conference which contained some of the tentative proposals which President Jayewardene had discussed with the Indian Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, in Delhi, last December.

## Afghanistan replaces its top brass

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi

A new chief of the general staff has been appointed in Afghanistan after the dismissal of several high military officials and officers by President Barak Karmal, according to Western Diplomats in Delhi.

General Baba Jan, who was thought to have been too old and ineffective for the job, has been replaced by a younger more aggressive general, the former commander-in-chief of the Air Force, General Nazir Muhammad.

A new first deputy minister of defence has also been appointed, according to the diplomats. He is Major-General Muhammad Nabi Azimi, former commander of the 17th Armoured Division.

## Pakistan holds 258 on drugs charges

From Our Correspondent, Islamabad

Pakistan's military regime has detained 258 people, on charges of being habitual smugglers, particularly of drugs. The detention, under martial law, deprives them of the right to seek redress from any civil court.

Mr Roedad Khan, the Secretary-General of the Interior Ministry, said that in 1983 anti-smuggling agencies seized 5,850lb of heroin besides other smuggled goods, valued at 290m rupees (about £15m). He said Pakistan's long borders with India, Afghanistan and Iran, stretching 1,500 miles, made it difficult to take effective measures against smuggling.

## Greece tames CIA-style intelligence agency

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece's Central Intelligence Services, once a hotbed of political intrigue and subversion, is being demilitarized and brought under the direct authority and control of Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister.

A Government spokesman said the revamped service, better known here as KYP from its Greek initials, would deal exclusively with matters affecting national security, "not, as it has done in the past, collecting information about Greek citizens."

Under a draft law tabled in Parliament on Monday, KYP becomes a "self-contained civilian service" under the Prime Minister's orders. Government critics claimed the move was designed to bring the service under the control of the ruling Socialist Party.

A decree to be enacted later will empower the Prime Minister to restructure the service, remodel its establishment and define the qualifications of its personnel. "We want to have an intelligence

service comparable to that of other countries and under strict Government control," the spokesman explained.

KYP was set up in 1952 with American guidance and technical aid. It was naturally modelled on the United States Central Intelligence Agency which it was in close cooperation at least until the Socialists came to power in 1981.

Most of the Greek colonels who staged the military coup in 1967 were connected with KYP, and it is this link that gave rise to left-wing allegations that the coup had been engineered by the CIA.

KYP was invariably headed by retired Army generals and staffed with military and police officers.

In recent months the Government advertised for qualified persons - with university degrees in a variety of fields without giving details. Some successful applicants who later discovered they were being hired by KYP, withdrew their applications.

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## THE ARTS

### To the German film director Wim Wenders America looked like a place of myth and hope. He has been working there again, on *Paris, Texas*. Melinda Camber Porter interviewed him on the set

## Pioneering the breakaway from introspection

"Most movies about men and women describe relationships as a total disaster or they describe them, in the wrong way, as beautiful, as if love can overcome everything. So I felt that this film should make an effort to show, not a solution, not a way out, nor a Utopia, but just show some sort of transcendence like a man jumping over his own shadow or some sort of reverse order of things, where everything would be do-able again. So that's what we're trying to do." Thus speaks Wim Wenders, the young German director who has been shooting his eleventh feature film, *Paris, Texas*, in and around Houston and Los Angeles.

The screenplay (conceived by Wenders and the playwright/actor Sam Shepard) was still undergoing changes when I arrived on the set and Wenders was allowing the natural character development of Travis (Harry Dean Stanton), Jane (Nastassia Kinski) and their child (Hunter Carson) to determine his rewrites. Sam Shepard was on the telephone from Iowa, monitoring the changes that Kiti Carson, author of the film *Breathless*, was dictating on location.

Mr Carson is the father of Hunter Carson, and he says that the story of *Paris, Texas* mirrors his own in many ways: that of a man who leaves his child and wife and returns in order to bring about some new relationship or family bond. But Wenders stresses that he is not just interested in the lonely self-discovery of Travis. For the first time in his career, he is attempting to explore a woman's development.

"It was a lot even to consider as a main theme of a movie for me, and that was a big step, not just to have it be one of several underlying subjects but to say, hey, this is what the movie is about. My own life had been so much dominated by my work in the movies and I had identified so much with that work. The last three films that I had made had all dealt with the cinema itself."

Wenders seems relieved to be working within the restrictions of a low budget. *Paris, Texas* is being financed by Channel 4 and French and German television. His intent to work with American finance proved disastrous when Coppola agreed to produce *Hammlet* but ended up trying to interfere with the direction of the film. Wenders demands total control over his method of working and material, but within that freedom lies the possibility of contradicting his own assumptions:



Wenders in America - shooting *Reverse Angle* in New York

"I feel that I am in more control than I can handle. I know my theme so well that it scares me. Usually I don't know that. You see, I can't stand working on a movie if the work itself and the actual making of the movie isn't also some sort of an adventure. One really can't discover the characters until one starts shooting. The ending comes out of them and they actually 'write' this story to the point where it is now."

Watching Wenders directing his actors is like watching a painter sensitive to each change in texture and tone, without being able to see the actual canvas. Sometimes he demands retakes of what appears to be a simple gesture: "The hardest part,

though, is to make everybody believe that it's going to make sense. If I tried to do it any other way, by first making a big sketch that everybody could look at - well, I couldn't do it."

"It's not a coincidence that Sam and I work together. So we have something in common. Stories to tell. Yes. Maybe Sam is looking for something similar in America to what I was looking for out of Europe and that I saw in America, and Sam sees it in the West. That of being a kind of hope, or a place where there was still some sort of change taking place. I don't know. Or at least the West for him - at least in the plays of his, there is still this mythical place that for me America is."

Does he feel that American society has realized, in any form, its Utopian dreams? "No. I think the opposite is true. I think that all the people who fled from Europe in the seventeenth century, and the nineteenth century, were trying to avoid inequities in Europe and hoped that this was the country where all these abuses wouldn't hit them any more. I think it was totally reversed, in that all these abuses have installed themselves on a much bigger scale here in America. We've just imported them."

Wenders is, paradoxically, more comfortable when he finds himself on the periphery of an unknown, be it in his artistic choices or his personal life. His fascination with America is based on the indefinable nature of society. "The very idea of being a

pioneer hasn't existed in Europe for five hundred years, except for those Europeans who left to explore the Antarctic, but, otherwise, there is no notion of a very ordinary person becoming, in a sense, a pioneer, by moving somewhere new with his family. So there's this whole long culture and tradition that has totally eliminated the possibility of being a pioneer."

Wenders has consistently been drawn to landscapes where one cannot remain: freeways, motels, deserts and open country. Looking out at the mirrored skyscraper upon skyscraper of the Houston skyline, he surprises by saying that this modernity is not alienating for him, but rather a part of his aesthetic.

Equality is the key theme of *Paris, Texas*, and Wenders believes it is essential in all relationships, although true equality is hard to achieve. "I think it's more that Travis realizes that what he has inside him, the feelings that he has, the good feelings that he has, that it is not fair towards Jane, the woman, not to share it with her, the same way he could share it with a kid."

Wenders has a natural bond with children. In his previous films, such as *Alice in the City*, his direction of the child was as sensitive as Truffaut's achievement with child actors. Watching him frolicking on the set with Hunter Carson, one sees a boyish vigour and unmasked joy radiating through his somewhat guarded manner.

"I lived with a boy for seven years, but he was not my child. And also you can never have any equal relationship to a child if you don't have any of a child left in you. And that's the real test between an adult and a child. How much child there is still in you. They sense it pretty quickly and they are pretty accurate about phony childhoods."

"Story-telling in general reassures not only kids but adults, and it does have a stabilizing effect. Just by the very fact that it has a structure. It's something firm and it starts somewhere and it ends somewhere. Everything that real life doesn't really tend to do. I really don't know what I would have done without these films that I make. I would probably have found some other sort of experience, but I feel that I not only measure my life through these 10 movies that I've made so far but that the changes that I have gone through are always enforced by the films I make."

## Television

### Intimate inhibitions

"If I had a 15-year-old daughter, I would think twice before I let her take her to dinner", said Clive James, introducing Roman Polanski, whom he was about to lunch. It was an intimate affair in Paris prefaced, possibly to stress the informality of an occasion that would be immediately witnessed by a camera crew and subsequently by last night's late audience on Channel 4. By a brief discussion on the genitalia of the snail, Mr James's first course.

Interviews tend to be artificial confrontations. Given the choice, interviewer and interviewee, unless they are completely glib, would probably prefer to be somewhere else, even if it were only at home watching a television interview. Mr Polanski, one supposes, would have additional inhibitions for, as he rightly anticipated, he was to be questioned about the ghastly murder of his pregnant wife Sharon Tate and about his hair-hopping from California where he faced a charge of having sex with a minor.

Though undoubtedly a brilliant film director, he is probably better known for these two incidents. Currently, he has a biography on the market, which made an interview useful for him and fair meat for Mr James.

His personal catastrophes loomed large from the beginning. Mr Polanski's early background came through sketchily though it had meant,

too. His parents were removed by the Germans and he was brought up in the country by friends of his father, only the woman of the house being aware of his Jewishness.

His introduction to film was through the wire of the Cracow ghetto. He watched the projection of newsreels on the walls. Later he saw German films ("lousy") and, postwar, became hooked on Roba Hood. He allowed his fascination with the medium into the Polish film school where he learnt his business before going west. The capitalist system, though not perfect, he judged the best possible.

The Sixties, he said, were his best time. His marriage to Sharon Tate was a peak, though the happiness had not lasted long enough to be tested. Her murder, he acknowledged, had probably made him unbalanced for a time.

He thanked Mr James for waiting for coffee to broach the subject of his predilection for young girls. "You want the nitty-gritty?" No, said Mr James, he did not. He wanted to know what happened that night, which sounded like the nitty-gritty. In fact, it was afternoon, Mr Polanski explained, and had Mr James seen the girl, he would not have been particularly shocked.

There was further discussion about Mr Polanski's attraction for women in general, but little sparkle. This is the trouble with long lunches.

Dennis Hackett

## Theatre

### Man as victim

#### Double bill

#### Old Red Lion

Reaching London via the Edinburgh Festival, these two French monodramas both feature a distraught male victim pleading his cause to an unseen listener, and obviously implicating the audience in his past sufferings. There the resemblance comes to an end, and it was a wise move by the Almeida Company to open the programme with Bernard-Marie Koltès's *Twilight Zone* rather than its pathetically hilarious sequel, Michel Tournier's *The Feast*.

*Twilight Zone* is the confession of a nameless outcast adrift in an alien country who stumbles into a bare room and pours out the story of his humiliations and fantasies to an imaginary "brother" before declaring that he is breaking ranks with the dispossessed and that henceforth this is his place.

The English translation, by Peter Cox, deploys a conspicuously literate syntax and is full of internal echoes and recapitulating loops; and most of it is reduced to a high-speed monotone by the black actor Trevor Laird, who reserves emphasis for moments of despair and

angry defiance. He is a powerful performer, but attention drifts.

*The Feast* may seem a trivial companion piece, but it is specific and beautifully organized, and it has found the right actor in Christopher Craig. True to the title, it concerns a man who pretends to be a victim of what goes inside them. But Mr Tournier gives his hero a fetishistic philosophy as well as a biography. His view is that lingerie has as much right to a happy life as those who buy it.

From the moment that, as a cavalry soldier, he is laid low by his first flash, he has devoted himself unwaveringly to this purpose. First as a PoW, then as a husband ransacking lingerie counters throughout the country and picking pockets to pay for it, he presents himself simultaneously as a selfish benefactor and a hopeless addict.

From Mr Craig's performance, eyes downcast and nervously twisting his fingers together after a decade in a mental hospital, pity accumulates as much as farce. But his final moment, standing gallantly to attention to salute a washing-line of his favourite exhibits, makes you wonder whether he is a victim after all.

Irving Wardle

#### Comic Cuts

#### Nuffield, Southampton

In the Garstwyke Alhambra near Hull, we are asked to believe, there sits a sharp-suited shark called Greenwood, raking in not only a fortune from bingo but a £200,000 Arts Council grant for completely fictitious theatrical productions. As theatre cleaner, he exploits his mentally retarded son, who goes about muttering "bloody bloody" or, for variety, "bloody" or "bloody".

Two blokes, one called Alice, plan to burglar the safe. Another bloke called Shirley with a joke mother-in-law and a frustrated wife prints fictitious drama reviews for the "ponces" in Piccadilly. (This sexless marriage, of course, heralds eventual, sentimental reunion and a cotus-shaken set.) Panicking at the news of an impending Arts Council inspection, the whole crew don frockcoats and crinolines for a hasty staging of, would you credit it, *The Government Inspector*.

As a cobbled-up contraption for raising laughs, Stephen Mallatrat's farce is more cynically senseless than most, but, surprisingly, the audience fell for it. Most of the dialogue, especially in the messy stop-go first act, is even feebler than the average television comedy, but the clever lines are worse. Greenwood asks his eavesdropping son "Tell me, sly slime,

what other sprats have you fished from his intimate net?" The boy spent most of that scene with his teeth fastened in Barry Foster's jacket pocket.

The sum of wasted acting talent is depressing. Mr Foster absentmindedly feeds his bat with dry-roasted peanuts and is not embarrassed by all his lines. Greenwood's taste in mistresses is impeccable, but massage, moaning and a smooch of Gogol give Ursula Mohan's comic gifts no scope. Neither the podgy Ken Morley's vicarish mischief nor his glaring American tourist gear can make Alice more than a tired non-joke.

The *raison d'être* of the piece, of course, is the last half-hour, the command performance itself. Funny costumes, missed entrances, safe-keys and swag passed round in mid-performance, bloody-bloodying from the halfwit (who, with typical implausibility, is playing the lead); it is all rather like a deformed and dying patient being given a monkey-gland injection. But Mr Mallatrat and his director Peter Wilson know that in this kind of context, like the finale of *Midsummer Night's Dream*, you can get away with murder. Martin Tilley's sets, starting with a gilded proscenium and rucked net drapes bathed in lilac light, do at least touch up tackiness with a twinkle in the eye.

Anthony Masters

## Concerts

### Anniversary classics

#### Capricorn/Friend

#### Queen Elizabeth Hall

What better way for a performing group to celebrate its tenth anniversary than by giving a concert of good old classics? Capricorn, who have been responsible for a good many first performances over the years, did exactly that on Tuesday - with a programme of Schoenberg, Berg and Webern.

Only in the instance of Berg's Chamber Concerto would I tentatively dare to question the music's quality. Despite the rich scoring, the heady profusion of ideas and the Brahmsian sense of proportion, the work's structure contains just a whiff of contrivance. The very idea of the solo pianist and violinist taking turns to play movements before coming together in the admittedly heady euphoria of the Rondo seems artificial, although the movements taken individually combine brilliant organizational skill with free-ranging passions.

The violin soloist, Elisabeth Perry, tackled with equal success the sweeping lyricism of the central Adagio and the swirling restlessness of the finale, while her pianist colleague, Julian Jacobson, skated, skipped, hammered and sang his way through the sonata-variations of the first movement with equivalent aplomb. But the work is really a concerto for every player, and Capricorn, conducted here as throughout

the concert by Lionel Friend, gave a superlative reading that almost succeeded in making one unaware of how much time and concentration were being expended.

No such exhaustion after Webern's Concerto for nine instruments, Op. 24, written when the composer was expanding his forms after reaching the limits of distilled expressionism. Even so, the work takes less than ten minutes, though during that time Webern says an awful lot and in an exceedingly beautiful way.

After a slightly wooden first movement, Capricorn's playing suddenly became wonderfully natural and fluent. The contours of the slow movement were shaped with attention to the broad cantabile phrases as well as the individual two and three-note cells. And the finale, a scherzo in all but name, bounced along joyfully, glittering with colour and brimming with inventiveness.

Finally, we heard Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire*, "three times seven" settings of Giraud the bizarre, macabre and haunting psyche of the missing clown. Sarah Walker's accurately pitched *sprechstimme* captured the elusiveness and eternal ambiguities of the character, while the equally finely pointed instrumental playing (now without standing all those canons and palindromes) also added to the sense of fear and mystery.

Stephen Pettitt

#### LSO/Previn

#### Festival Hall

The fiftieth anniversary of Elgar's death has only just begun to be celebrated, yet already his enigma has been presented head-on, and by the orchestra with which he was closely associated in the early years of this century as principal conductor and as leader of its first provincial tour.

Under André Previn's direction, the London Symphony Orchestra, playing on Tuesday as well as they have done for months, stimulated, questioned and challenged in often quite extraordinarily revelatory performances, from the first bars of the *Cockaigne* Overture to the last note of the "Enigma" Variations.

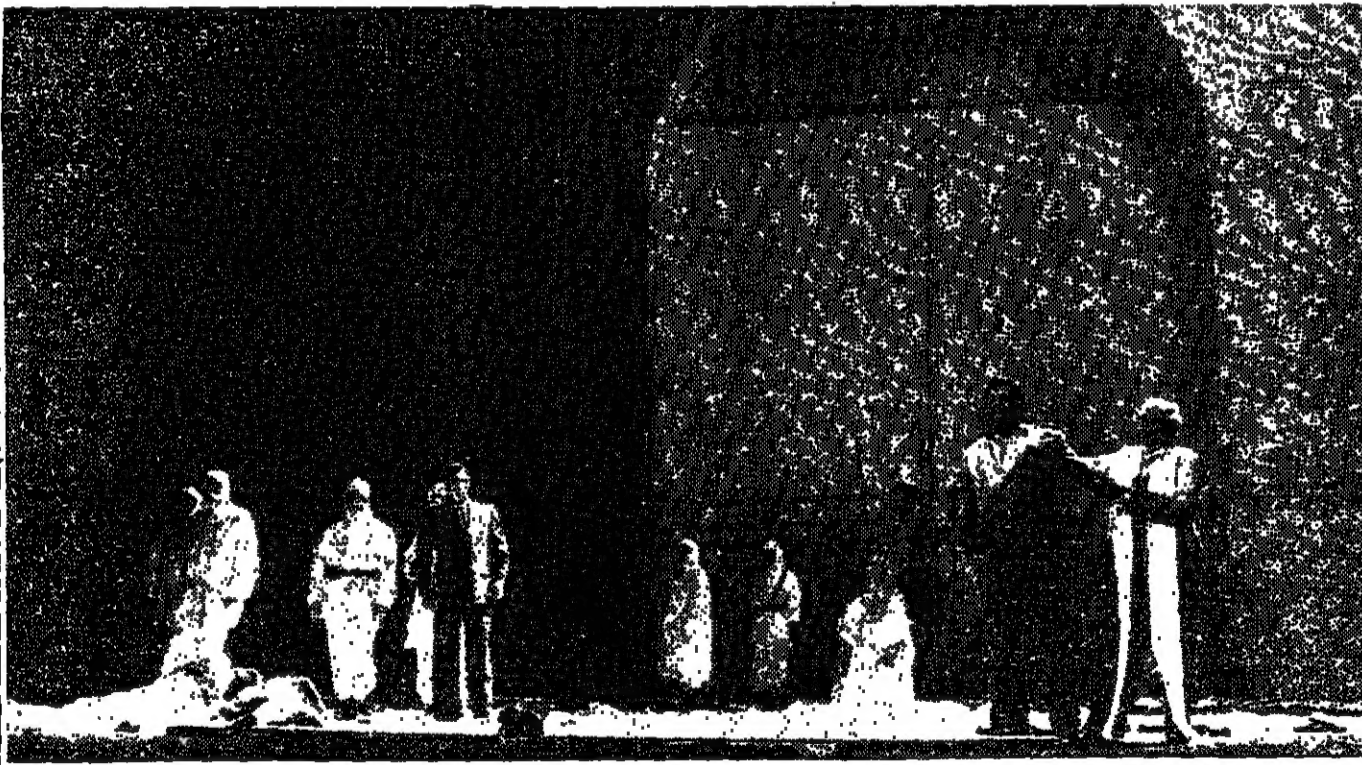
The paradoxes and ambivalences suspended so lightly and pointed so vividly by Previn in these two works found their sharpest focus in Yo Yo Ma's central performance of the Cello Concerto, a work given its first performance by this orchestra in 1919. Its fiercely concentrated opening recitative contained the seeds of that rare breadth of emotional experience which the soloist can find in a single line, and which he used throughout the work to articu-

late his deeply perceptive interpretation.

It was a reading which, in richness of idea and response, it would take one long past deadline time to digest fully. For the time being, only elements and clues surface: the vibrant balance maintained between urgent involvement and strange distancing in the patterns of timbre and phrasing in the slow movement, the sense of an almost Sisyphus-like struggle against weight and descent in the finale, the indivisibility of bow and baton within Previn's masterful direction of the orchestral accompaniment.

That same lively ebb and flow between solo voice and orchestral body contributed, in the "Enigma" Variations, to Previn's drawing out of the work's supple whimsicality, and to his engendering of a constant sense of elusive mystery through its variations. Its teasing rhythms and, most remarkably, in the long, tense restraint of "Nimrod" growth, this performance left room, where many do not, for questions to remain, and for Elgar's "dark saying" to be everywhere present and still unguessed.

Hilary Finch



The bare-walled final act, with Jean-Philippe Lafont (Golaud) and Pierre Thau (Arkel) on the right

## Opera

### Maeterlinck's bluff is called at last

#### Pelléas et Mélisande

#### Monnaie, Brussels

One had always thought that the emptiness of Maeterlinck's drama was a positive advantage, that it offered the necessary invitation to Debussy to bring *Pelléas et Mélisande* into some real existence with music.

Now a fellow Belgian, the filmmaker André Delvaux, has called Maeterlinck's bluff. Instead of seizing the play's elusive phrases into a flesh-and-blood tragedy, as was for instance Harry Kupfer's way at the Coliseum, M Delvaux has withdrawn to a distance from which he can inspect the text, often contradict it, and attempt to pierce through its screens to the very much more precise though ambiguous data of Debussy's music. It is in the best sense an experimental production that the Brussels Opera have got themselves, and as such it may take a little while to become properly efficient. Still, the significance of the experiment is clear: it has turned Maeterlinck's play into steel instruments for a surgical exploration of its meaning.

An index of the production's seriousness is its treatment of Yniold's solo scene in the fourth act, normally a children's corner in the opera but here absolutely central. Typically M Delvaux achieves the change by transforming symbols into severe stage actualities. The effect can be crass, as when the boy tries to shift not a stone but a grand piano: the weight of the music in this production has already been thoroughly felt. But other aspects of the scene assist the estranging of the opera

that is so powerfully persuasive.

Yniold is the only character to make any contact with the normal world, in his little dialogue with the Shepherd. M Delvaux, however, cuts off that line of communication. The Shepherd's part is sung by Yniold as in a game, and the outside world features instead in a dim vision of operatives engulfed in white overalls. They precipitate Yniold's departure so that the opera can proceed to its climax of love and death in the next scene, just as they have appeared before, in advance of the prelude, to set Mélisande on her course, and just as they will appear again in the last act to collect her from a stage opened out to the bare rear wall and littered with detritus.

The overalls and the cautious movements suggest people examining a Sovos-type nuclear trope, or workers at a nuclear plant handling exceedingly dangerous material: both images are apt. But the outsiders also give a firm, if unexplained reality to Maeterlinck's "destiny", in that the dynamic of fate is replaced by that of their observation. Mélisande begins as one of them. She is then placed in Allemonde while the watchers wait, and she penetrates layer upon layer of the castle: rather vulgar drops carrying lighting patterns out of Barnett Newman are lifted one by one until the stage stands vacant and black for the cistern scene. At the centre of the riddle is a great emptiness, which once exposed must collapse.

But if this Mélisande, sung with chilled, stilled purity by Britt-Marie Aruhn, is puncturing Maeterlinck's pretensions, she is puncturing too the pretensions of the other charac-



Anthony Rolfe Johnson's lyrical Pelléas

ters. Dressed in lustrous modern fabrics to a 1930s cut, these are surely not the creatures of Maeterlinck's imagination but people investigating within and largely for themselves what it might be like to be the confused youth, the ogreous husband and the resigned elders. It is a delicate line to take on a dramatic work, and it demands from the cast both a tight control and a willingness to play dangerously.

On this level there are no questions. The Pelléas, or perhaps it should be pseudo-Pelléas, is a young man in the loose attire of a Humphrey Bogart, one prepared to show

his vulnerability, in contrast with the stiff suited figures of Golaud and Arkel: he is an appropriate embodiment for Anthony Rolfe Johnson's debut in the part, which proves to thrive abundantly on his blend of exquisite, slightly anxious concern and generous lyrical beauty. The tone sounds utterly spontaneous, and free in all parts of what is a high-toned role, yet the carefulness of diction gently insinuates a dislocation from the character. What happens is terribly important to the young man, but a little of him may sense it is also a charade.

Jocelyne Tailleur must now always feel herself caught in a charade as she lends her beautifully modelled Genevieve to production after production. There is also, from Jean-Philippe Lafont, a Golaud who has come to stay: a powerfully built bull of a man singing with grim force. Sylvain Cambreleng gets unruly but eagerly forward playing of a score incorporating emendations Debussy made after publication: the most notable and valuable is the addition of four solo violins to the flutes right at the start of the second act, modulating a too brilliant timbre. There are further performances tonight and on Sunday.

Paul Griffiths

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DENIS POTTER  
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ALBERT THEATRE  
31 JANUARY



# Enter the bashful showman

## The Times Profile Lord Bernstein

When, over the years, reporters have questioned Lord Bernstein, pioneer figure of the twentieth-century entertainment world and founder of Granada Television, about his life, he has invariably replied that it has been "90 per cent luck and 10 per cent Good Luck". He insists on the capitals. It is a short, memorable, showman's phrase, and Bernstein has always professed to be a showman. It is no accident that when Granada was established as one of the first four independent television companies in the mid-1950s, he ordered that a portrait of Barnum, the famous American nineteenth-century circus impresario, be hung on every office wall. It is our duty, he would say, to entertain the public.

To canniness about what people want and respond to, and personal modesty about his own ability to provide it, must be added a second, apparently contradictory trait of character: a desire for secrecy. Bernstein needs privacy. Almost every activity he has engaged in is marked by a determination that as few people as possible should know of his involvement - whether it be his role in the anti-fascist movement of the 1930s, his long crusade to find a site and backing for the National Theatre or his acts of personal generosity.

It is no accident either that he has reached his 80s - he celebrates his eighty-fifth birthday on Monday - with his name absent from most of the ventures that he has been part of, and that of the really successful British entrepreneurs of this century he is probably the least publicly known. His contribution has always to be discovered from others.

Not that this contribution is easy to assess. It cannot be summed up in neat, progressive steps. There are not only his measurable achievements but all those others which he initiated, or paths that he took for a while, then turned away from, such as politics or film production. Had he persevered in almost any one of them, those who worked with him say, he could have accomplished anything. The brilliance, the drive, the energy are there. Yet at the last minute, he seems always to have stopped short of final commitment, with the result that he has excelled in many areas but reached the highest point in none. Such hesitation makes him a more approachable figure; it also makes him harder to interpret.

The business acumen, which came to him early, has served largely to finance the rest - the plays he loves to put on, the pictures he hangs not just on his own walls, but on all walls over which he has some say, the educational experiments he is concerned with. About himself, he is prone to say that he should have been an architect, for that was where his true talents lay.

Sidney Lewis Bernstein - old Granada hands refer to him as SLB - was born the same year and in the same East End corner of London as Alfred Hitchcock, the man who became one of his closest friends and whose films he produced. He was the second son of a restless, relatively prosperous businessman who had the fortune and foresight to buy himself into the music hall business precisely at the moment when theatre entertainment was reaching a peak popularity.

Bernstein soon showed himself to be more inventive and determined than his eight brothers and sisters, a lean, somewhat fastidious boy with formal good manners and an alert, quizzical smile. By the age of 15 he was begging his reluctant parents to let him leave school and join the business. In any case, he was already a truant, sneaking away to the Ilford Hippodrome for the matinees, to Covent Garden to see Diaghilev, or to Oswald Stoll's Coliseum, where actors performed Roman chariot races on the revolving stages.

Any uncertainty about the final form his future would take was dispelled by the sudden death of his father. The heir to four suburban theatres, Bernstein now led the large family - his elder brother Selim had been killed at Gallipoli - conscientiously and soon very profitably through the 1920s, supervising his brothers' education and his sisters' betrothals and taking his father's place at Friday night Sabbath celebrations.

### A new theatre opened every three months

In describing his life, Bernstein frequently alludes to lucky encounters with the people who, he declares, were really responsible for shaping his interests: Arnold Bennett, who introduced him to the theatre, Iris Barry, who taught him about music and the cinema, H.G. Wells, James Agate, Eisenstein, Sean O'Casey, Teddy Kollek, Charlie Chaplin and many others. To what extent luck of this kind is really luck is highly dubious, but it is certainly true that his meeting in Paris in 1925 with Theodore Komisarjevsky, the Russian theatre director and designer, shaped not just his personal future but that of the British film industry.

By the early 1930s the two men - Bernstein extremely courageous when it came to taking risks, Komisarjevsky highly inventive but also dilatory - were constructing palaces of entertainment in the London suburbs, vast theatres outrageously blending architectural styles, where thousands of people came and marvelled at the marble and the glass, the chandeliers and the carved ceilings, the frescoes and the gold. In 1935 a new Granada was being opened every three months.

Bernstein's interest was not just in appearance. He had returned from a long tour of America convinced that a combination of music hall and the new talkies, with as much ceremony and splendour as could be engineered, were exactly what was needed to provide an escape from the economic fears and dreariness of the Depression. He showed the best Hollywood could offer in the Granada cinemas, and also became a founder member of the Film Society, formed to introduce the masterpieces of European and Russian cinema to a British public that would not otherwise see them. And he built a theatre of his own, the Phoenix, which he opened with the first performance of *Private Lives*. Noël Coward, Gertrude Lawrence, Laurence Olivier and Emeric Pressburger made up the cast. Komisarjevsky designed the Phoenix, and Polunin painted it in the style of Giorgione, Titian and Tintoretto.

It was during the 1930s that the mania for detail which became the hallmark of his professional and private style was born. What surprised



SIDNEY LEWIS BERNSTEIN  
Born January 1899, Ilford, London  
Educated Coopers Company School, Bow  
1916 Joined father's company  
Film Agencies Ltd  
1925 Founder member of the Film Society  
1930 Opened Phoenix Theatre with first production of *Private Lives*

1934 Granada Theatres Ltd floated  
1948-1951 Producer in Hollywood with Alfred Hitchcock  
1956 Launched Granada Television  
1969 Made a Life Peer  
1978 Retired as director and Chairman of Granada to become President of the Group for Life

friends and colleagues was that he could keep so much in his mind at any one time. His unannounced visits to the Granada cinemas became a weekly nightmare for the managers, who learned to dread the arrival of the white Minerva and Bernstein's rapid tread on the steps - a tall man, he moved at great speed, collecting in his wake apprehensive employees - as he called out: "What is this ash doing?" and "Why haven't the posters been changed?" or "That usher has filthy gloves".

This obsession that all things Granada should be best, allied with small foibles - later, legends built up that Bernstein frowned on beards, dangling earrings and suede shoes - brought him respect but also fear. The charm and drive was real, but it could all be a little tough. The toughness was real too. If crossed, cheated or maligned he instantly sued, taking distinct pleasure in the process of litigation, and leaving an assortment of successful libel cases behind him.

He lived in style. He kept a horse and rode in Rotten Row before breakfast. At St Moritz he acted as brake for the Argentinean team on the Cresta run. And if walking across Europe with a knapsack on his back remained his chief pleasure, often with the poet Laz Aaronson as his companion, he was also to be found at London's *the dancantes*, or in the Cafe Royal talking books and pictures with Raymond Mortimer and Augustus

John. In November 1936, to the surprise of friends - for Bernstein was as secretive about his love affairs as his business ventures - he married a journalist called Zoe Farmer. She was 24. They were not suited, and the marriage did not long survive the war.

The son of Orthodox Jewish parents, Bernstein has never been particularly religious. But he took up the cause of anti-fascism when he was very young. In 1933, when the Reichstag trial was being prepared in Germany, he provided money and contacts to set up a counter-trial in London, one of the first unofficial trials of its kind, attended by some of the finest Anglo-Saxon legal minds and at which the Nazis, rather than the hapless Dutch suspected arsonist van der Lubbe, were put on trial and condemned.

### Marriage and family life pleased him greatly

The late 1940s were an uncertain time in his life. He hesitated about what direction to take (Eileen Wilkinson proposed that he take over the Arts Council now that Maynard Keynes was dead) and finally chose Hollywood, joining Hitchcock as his producer and leaving Granada in the capable hands of his brother Cecil, his closest associate until his death in 1981. The result was three films, *Rope*, *Under Capricorn* and *I Confess*, not

Hitchcock's best, but a great deal of fun.

In 1952, he packed up and came home, rather shrewdly since Hollywood, bedevilled by McCarthy's witch-hunts, the new anti-trust laws and the advent of television, was just embarking on the gloomiest phase of its history. Within a year, he joined the race for the independent television contracts, returned his formidable powers of concentration to the future of his company, and married again. This marriage, to a Canadian, Sandra Malone, was to be a success: three children and the domesticity of family life pleased him greatly.

Granada rapidly became the most respected independent station, with an unparalleled reputation for investigative journalism in programmes such as *Searchlight* and *World in Action*. His battles on behalf of the company left casualties along the way. The survivors seemed imbued with what sometimes amounted to a kind of hero worship.

More important, when someone had a good idea and convinced him of it, he would champion it. He saw television as a new medium with which to challenge received wisdom.

### Politics are a matter of faith, not argument

However, not even so enormous an enterprise as the creation of Granada Television kept him absorbed for long. By the early 1960s Bernstein was already searching for new ventures and Granada began to absorb publishing houses and bingo, foreign television stations and television rental agencies. Privately, he was busy endowing chairs of drama and landscape architecture in the North of England, the "Granada-land" he made so particularly his own.

When, in the summer of 1969, Sir Harold Wilson offered him a life peerage, some friends were surprised that he used the House of Lords so infrequently as a platform for his solid Labour views, staunchly held since he first became a councillor for Willesden in 1925. Others, however, believe that Bernstein's politics are a matter of faith, not argument, that what he enjoys is reasserting certain tenets of belief and that political debate loses all its charm for him once it is reduced to caveats and the need to accommodate.

In July 1979, when Bernstein had passed his eightieth birthday, he announced that he was retiring as director and chairman of the company to become president for life. His nephew Alex, son of his brother Cecil, took his place as executive, heir to an enterprise that had transformed itself in 57 years from four suburban theatres to one of the most successful of modern British businesses.

Can curiosity be a determining trait in a man's character? Others have been as determined, as secretive, as far-sighted as he is, with as much flair for drama, for making money and building empires. Though perhaps more single-minded, more narrowly focused, they have not been as curious. Bernstein needs to know about everything, whether it be the mechanism of a new camera, the potential in the drafting of a new law, or what that green thing is on the plate of the man sitting at the next table. The manner in which he demands the information is invariably charming and courteous, though it can be imperious, but the fact that he demands it at all is what marks him out.

Caroline Moorehead

The author's biography of Lord Bernstein is published today by Jonathan Cape, price £12.95.

Moscow  
"Let's get one thing straight", the Rector of Lumbumba University, Dr Vladimir Stanis, said heatedly. "We do not produce terrorists. We produce doctors, scientists and engineers for the poor and oppressed countries of the Third World." He leapt up from behind his desk and strode over to a glass cabinet, pausing by a large tom-tom in the shape of an African mask. "This is from Mozambique", he said, giving it a resounding thump. He moved on to an ornamental silver plaque with an Aztec design, mounted on wood, "Mexico. And this is a giant carved grasshopper from Guinea Bissau, a present from the foreign minister."

The Rector returned to his desk. "No terrorists. We take students from poor, under-privileged backgrounds and educate them. There are plenty of places for bourgeois students in the West."

Lumbumba - or to give it its full title, The Patrice Lumumba People's Friendship University - next year celebrates 25 years of existence, and the Russians are proud of its record. Founded in

1960 and named after the murdered left-wing Congolese Prime Minister, the university has turned out about 10,000 graduates over a quarter of a century. As the Rector says in his official handbook, *University of Friendship Lumumba*, graduates "are active in the economies of 110 countries... They are a vivid example of the practical realization of Leninist internationalist policy".

But are they also expected to be grateful to the Soviet Union, and perhaps to the university, for the practical realization of Soviet foreign policy? The Russians are sensitive to this charge, and even more sensitive to the suggestion that Lumbumba University is a kind of guerrilla training camp, turning out KGB-trained Marxist terrorists ready to sow mayhem and subversion at Moscow's bidding.

As Dr Stanis points out, there are no squads of freedom fighters visible from his study windows, no tough-looking men doing Kalesnikov target practice among the grim grey tower blocks of the windswept campus on the outskirts of Moscow. If there are training camps for participants in "national liberation struggles" - and groups like the Palestine Liberation Organization have received training in Russia - the Russians keep them well hidden. Dr Stanis vehemently denies that Russia trains terrorists at all. An ebullient man who has run Lumbumba for 13 years, he raised the subject before I had a chance to consult my notes and promptly knocked it down as "gross" and totally unjustified slander.

Dr Stanis is obviously used to being accused of running a centre for Third World subversives and spends much of his time on academic exchanges around the world trying to improve Lumbumba's image. He wryly recalls a recent trip to New York where he watched a thriller called *Night Hawks*. The film depicts a violent and psychotic international terrorist whose

## Richard Owen asks whether Moscow's Lumumba University combines teaching with terrorism

### Third World studies in a cold climate

chief credential as a political figure is that he "attended Lumbumba University in Moscow". Many heads in the cinema turned to Dr Stanis when it was learned that the "terrorist chief" himself was in the audience. A stocky man with swept back white hair and glasses, Dr Stanis professes to find the incident amusing.

But if it does not foster political terrorism, does Lumbumba aim to produce Communist or Marxist Third World graduates sympathetic to Soviet aims? Dr Stanis said it would be surprising if the university had any other intention. "We have students from all backgrounds here - Buddhist monks, believers and non-believers, communists and non-communists."

"What I can say is that we educate them all to be friends of the Soviet Union, and of course we seek to instill in them the methodology of Marxism-Leninism. The Rector leans forward and smiles, holding his lapel badge of Lenin between thumb and forefinger. "I am a member of the Communist Party, most of my staff are communists. This is a Soviet institution. What do you expect us to do, produce anti-communists?"

While the aim is to make friends and influence people in the Third World, Lumbumba claims that it is happy to turn deprived students into well-trained professional specialists with no particular gain to the Soviet Union. As proof of this Dr Stanis points to the example of Nepal, where the King's chief minister for many years was a

Lumbumba graduate, without turning the tiny mountain monarchy into a Marxist centre for destabilization on the Indo-Chinese border.

As a member of the World University Association, Lumbumba teaches its students to be "both patriots of their own country and internationalist patriots as well". Would that mean proletarian internationalism, one of the central tenets of which is loyalty to Moscow? Dr Stanis replies that the main purpose of the university is to provide "countries emerging from colonialism" with specialists able to bring primitive and backward cultures into the modern world. If that makes them friendly to the

Lumbumba graduate, without turning the tiny mountain monarchy into a Marxist centre for destabilization on the Indo-Chinese border.

Patrice Lumumba: the university was named after him

cause of world communism, so much the better. "And don't try and tell me the training of overseas students in the West is entirely disinterested", he adds.

As the then Soviet Prime Minister Aleksei Kosygin put it in the 1960s, Lumbumba was founded to meet the need for higher education in countries "gaining their freedom from colonial dependence". The university, which at that time had older and more cramped premises nearer the centre of Moscow, started off with just over 500 students drawn from Africa, Asia and Latin America. It now has a sprawling new campus and about 5,000 Third World undergraduates from 105 nations. They study alongside some 2,000 Soviet students training as future advisers in Third World countries.

In the final analysis students are chosen for both aptitude and political leanings: applications (places at Lumbumba are much in demand) are channelled through Soviet friendship societies or Soviet embassies. One of the most famous or notorious - Lumbumba students recruited in this way was Ilych Ramirez Sanchez, the product of a Marxist-minded Venezuelan family (though not one below the poverty line). As Carlos the Jackal Sanchez went on to give Lumbumba much of its "terrorist training school" reputation, although university officials say, did not last. The Jackal, they say, did not last much beyond the first introductory year of study and was expelled for his irresponsible behaviour.

There are no statistics on the drop-out rate, but officials say that those who fall at the first hurdle - a general one year course including Russian language study - tend to be sent home. The staff-student ratio at Lumbumba is generous, with 1,300 teaching staff specializing in physics, mathematics, economics, law, medicine, agriculture and engineering (Economics, oddly enough, includes a thorough grounding in capitalism, since many Lumbumba graduates go back

to capitalist systems rather than centrally planned economies.)

There have been instances of racism (though the authorities deny this), and some Lumbumba students are attracted by Moscow's black market. But the university tries to integrate students into Moscow life through a combination of discipline and familiarization campaigns.

Down the corridor, in the reading room of the newly-built library, students sit poring over textbooks or perusing newspapers - the majority either Soviet or African and Asian English-language dailies. The only western newspapers available appeared to be the *Morning Star* and the *Daily World*, the organ of the American Communist Party.

In the main foyer students mill about under portraits of revolutionary heroes, including Patrice Lumumba (murdered, according to the latest Soviet articles, with CIA connivance) and Che Guevara. A noticeboard announces the results of a poetry competition: the winning verse is in praise of martyred freedom fighters who fell fighting South African tyranny or American aggression in the Caribbean.

Lumbumba accounts for an important part of Russia's aid to the Third World, though how much is not known. The overall figures are in any case disputed, since Moscow claims it gave \$44 bn to developing countries from 1976 to 1980, whereas the Foreign Office puts the real figure at only \$8 bn. But the Russians point out that the Third World is overwhelmingly in debt to the capitalist West, whereas Moscow offers developing countries economic and cultural aid designed to help them in their "struggle for decolonization". It is "selfless assistance" rendered to enable the Third World to extract itself from the capitalist, colonialist quagmire. Despite the drawbacks of a cold climate, an alien culture and economic ineptitude, quite a lot of Lumbumba's 5,000 students will find the argument convincing.

moreover...  
Miles Kington

## And all that jazz...

Something amazing is due to happen this year. It looks as if the National Jazz Centre will actually open this year in Floral Street, Covent Garden. As if to celebrate in advance, their concert wing is organizing between now and March a nationwide tour of five bands playing 50 concerts, under the generic title "Jazz is".

The amazing thing about this is that jazz is generally the least organized sort of music. Far from fixing a centre, the jazz fraternity would find it hard normally to fix 50 concerts, or even a generic title, come to that. Last October, for instance, I was given a preview tour of a new Jazz Museum in New Orleans, due to open in a couple of weeks time. There would, I supposed, be a grand opening ceremony.

Not quite, said the curator. The museum had been due to open in March, at which time many bands had offered their services free. The opening ceremony had taken place in March, everyone had enjoyed it, but for one reason or another they had lost rather a lot of money on the day and had also had to announce that they would not be open for another six months. Now that they were really about to open they could not afford another ceremony and the bands were understandably leery about turning out again.

That, I fear, is more typical of the way jazz tends to be organized. But the Jazz Centre people have shown all along, for more than a dozen years, a determination and planning ability which are a source of constant amazement. When the Jazz Centre opens it will be the only place of its kind in the world, with concert area, rehearsal rooms, bar, club room and almost everything.

I say almost everything, because even the best jazz centre cannot provide everything.

A brothel. Legend has it that New Orleans jazz was born in the whorehouses and pleasure palaces of New Orleans. Legend, as so often, turns out to be wrong: New Orleans brothels did not hire bands - at most, an occasional solo pianist - and the connexion is romantic wishful thinking. Well, can't this be put right? A small, plush, chandeliered brothel attached to the Jazz Centre, with good live music, would be good for publicity and business, even if there are one or two by-laws to be straightened out first.

A critics' bar. When the music is at its fastest and most furious, critics and reviewers like to be in another room, drinking. There is indeed a downstairs bar at Ronnie Scott's, no doubt for this very purpose, where critics can compose their sentences far from the distracting music. But we need more.

An all-night pub. Some trades, such as meat porters, have pubs which open at their peculiar hours, like 6am. Jazz musicians have peculiar hours. They play a job, drive back to London at 1am, and find all the pubs shut. All they ask for is a couple of hours drinking-up time.

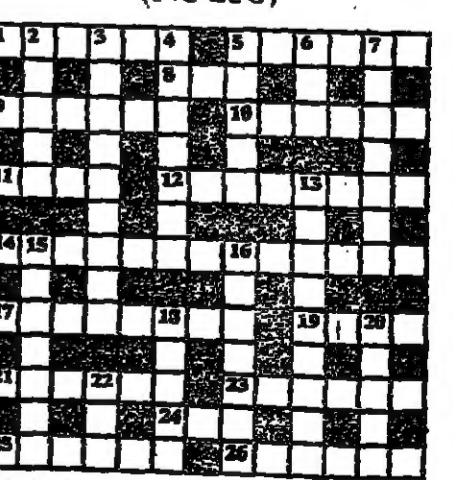
A Jazz Humour Reference Library. Jazz musicians have a fine, self-mocking sense of humour, almost more Jewish than Jewish, though sometimes opaque to outsiders. Example: a story told recently by Ronnie Scott, a famous tenor saxophonist dies and goes to heaven, where St Peter says that as a reward for his good deeds he can form a band from the best of all the jazz musicians already resident in heaven. No conditions, asks the tenorman? No strings attached? No, says St Peter, you have a free hand. Oh, there's just one thing - God is very friendly with this young girl singer, whom he's rather anxious to promote... None of these stories is ever written down. They should be.

A room with a piano in tune.

A reading and writing room, where jazz fans can pen letters to critics and broadcasters starting: "Dear Sir, I thought you were meant to be an expert, any fool knows that Benny Goodman couldn't have been on that record because..."

A complaints room, with a direct phone link to the BBC on which jazz fans can complain about the paucity of jazz on the air, etc...

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 258)



CROSS  
1 Plant shade (6)  
5 Without principles (6)  
8 In favour of (3)  
9 Neck cape (6)  
10 Splendid gathering (6)  
11 Yarn (4)  
12 Memoranda pad (8)  
14 Voice thrower (13)  
17 Permissive (8)  
19 Pludge (4)  
21 Unwholesome atmosphere (6)  
22 Woodouse family (6)  
23 Governor (13)  
24 Breathe in (6)  
26 Artificial (6)

DOWN  
2 Lawnful (5)  
3 Train bed (9)  
4 Turkish tile (7)  
6 Group slang (5)  
7 Solemn men (5)  
13 Middle-aged (9)  
15 Wearing away (7)  
16 Survive longer (7)  
18 Proverbial (5)  
19 The monitor (5)  
20 Mineral spring (13)

SOLUTION TO No 257  
ACROSS: 1 Morrow 4 Beggar 7 Hair 8 Graffiti  
9 Glissade 12 Gym 15 Brewer 16 Avenue 17 Net  
19 Dinosaurs 24 Manicure 25 Cui 26 Starve  
27 Hassle  
DOWN: 1 Mow 2 Refuel 3 Wings 4 Braid  
5 Gaff 6 April 10 Sled 11 Eyes 12 Garrulous  
13 Meek 14 Ebon 18 Enact 20 Inure 21 Obach  
22 Liar 23 Type

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## BOOKS

### Woodrow on the king of crime Hardboiled old pro

**Dashiell Hammett**  
**A Life at the Edge**  
By William F. Nolan  
(Virago, £9.95)

**The Life of Dashiell Hammett**  
By Diane Johnson  
(Dutton & Windus, £12.95)

Buffed by his own good and ill luck Dashiell Hammett held on to the one stable element in his life. He was an American and proud of it. A veteran of two world wars, he claimed his right to be buried in the Arlington National Cemetery. This, as he probably hoped, infuriated those who thought a Communist had no business to be buried among war heroes who died defending the American way of life.

Hammett was a Communist in spirit, if not a card-carrying party member. During the thirties he was in Communist front organizations. It was as a Marxist or Communist in Hollywood then as it was in Cambridge, England. Hammett was not dedicated to revolutionary subversion: that would have required much too sustained an effort. Gatherings in comfortable surroundings with like-minded self-conscious progressives and a hint of romantic conspiracy was about his limit.

The man was an ass, but not the villain portrayed by anti-Communist hysteria. For the last nine years of his life the authorities persecuted him into penury for back taxes, which a cruel boycott by Hollywood and others prevented him earning the money to pay. There is no political content in his novels and stories. His intermittent sources of income in his last few years (he died in January 1961 at the age of 66) were skimpy

and disputed pensions from the Veterans' Administration. Without Lillian Hellman, with whom he lived on and off for 30 years, he would have been destitute.

But even when the money was rolling in he spent and gave it away without thought of tomorrow. His hotel bills were gargantuan. His extravagance was clinical. His life was wholly disordered, disrupted by drink and illness. Perhaps that is why he was attracted to what may have seemed to him the disciplined structure of Communism.

Hammett's formal education ceased at 14. He drifted through a variety of petty jobs until he was 20 when he went to work for Pinkertons, the celebrated detective agency. Apart from two years of the war he stayed with them until 1922, possibly the longest time he was steady in one occupation.

He became the first writer to describe detectives as they actually were. He knew professionally how a man was shadowed, how evidence was obtained, what the capabilities of firearms were, what happened when a revolver bullet hit someone and how the importance of fingerprints was exaggerated.

What Hammett wrote about crime and detection was authentic as well as brilliant and enthralling. No M. Poirot for him. He started a whole school of this kind of writing in which hardboiled detectives do not always have hearts of gold, though they may be roughly on the side of the law. Raymond Chandler and Eric Stanley Gardner and multitudes of lesser writers owe much to him.

But what he wrote was so original, imaginative and well executed that the money poured in from films and scores of editions in the United States and abroad. If he had let even half the money he earned stick in his fingers he would have died comfortably, a double dollar millionaire with all taxes paid. *The Maltese Falcon*, *The Thin Man* and *The Continental Op* alone would have been enough for a fortune.

It is unnecessary to buy both Diane Johnson's and William Nolan's books. The latter is shorter, cheaper and tougher. The former is longer, more expensive and more sentimental. The essentials of this archetypal world-weary man are in each though they vary in details. It must be said, however, that it is pleasant to meet Mr Hammett when he was sober, but unusually disagreeable when he was not.

### Up the Brethren

**The Brotherhood**  
By Stephen Knight  
(Granada, £8.95)

Mr Knight began his literary Mason-reading with *Jack the Ripper: the final solution*, and has followed it with a work promising all sorts of horrors, if these evil men in aprons are not extirpated from most of the usual occupations of the bourgeoisie. He passes sometimes to mention the Royal Masonic Hospital and other good works funded by Freemasonry, but one feels that the praise is grudgingly inserted to give an impression of balance and fairness. Most of the book consists of documented cases of villainy on the part of Freemasons in the police, who are named; in large firms of solicitors (anonymous); and by one or two notorious con-men such as John Poulson. There are 750,000 Freemasons in the United Kingdom and as 90 per cent of them joined in order to improve their financial lot, it would be surprising if none were corruptible, or made use of the enormous network available for the promotion of any kind of business.

Mr Knight's problem in writing about a semi-secret organisation is that he cannot prove or disprove. In *Jack the Ripper* he had a story, a hypothesis that fitted it, and a

cast of characters all dead and uninterested in libel actions. It added up to a rattling good yarn. For his present work he was unable to get much help from the Brethren, and so it is largely written in "early" Chapman Pincherese. "I can now exclusively and breathlessly reveal for the first time absolutely nothing". There are, therefore, as padding, lists of City worthies known to be Masons who presumably don't bother to deny it, together with a description of their regalia.

These last, and the rituals performed, are mostly the products of a fevered 19th century imagination. The oaths sworn are fairly bloodcurdling, but not at all secret, as they can be found in Mackay's *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*. A friend of mine, who got no further than initiation, was quite impressed with the first part of the ceremony - he was blindfolded at the time, and could not walk very well, as he was allowed to wear only one shoe. When he was able to see he recognized various former schoolfellows he had hoped never to meet again, and was then given a lecture on the virtues of chastity and sobriety by a man he knew to be a drunk who was living with somebody else's wife. He therefore made his excuses and left.

The last chapter left me with the impression that the Worshipful Grand Master of World Freemasonry is without doubt Mr Andropov (if he is still with us) and that the KGB has already got its feet well under the table at No 10 Duke Street, which we are told is HQ. I may, of course, have confused him with Archbishop Fisher, who is also reckoned a buddy, because he (a Mason) prevented any form of investigation by the Church of England into the influence of the craft and its compatibility with Christianity. Roman Catholics are still forbidden by their church to join, and the chapter on papal attitudes both historical and contemporary is the best in the book.

I am still left in the dark about why so many highly intelligent and successful men need to be Freemasons: they already have the power and the money, and if they want a God they can always go to an established Church dressed in ordinary clothes. Why then the aprons and bogus mythology? Perhaps the author will tell us in his next exposé - provided the Black and White Knight of Kadash doesn't get to him first.

Christopher Parsons



Eagle-eyed: Buñuel on location for *The Milky Way*

### My Last Breath

**By Luis Buñuel**  
Translated by Abigail Israel  
(Cape, £8.95)

Luis Buñuel went a long way. He was born in 1900 into a bourgeois Roman Catholic family in the Aragonese village of Calanda, where "the Middle Ages lasted until World War I". In his teens he arrived in Madrid to become part of a waywardly brilliant group of young intellectuals (Lorca and Dalí among them). By the late twenties he was in Paris as one of the inner circle of the Surrealists and the creator of two monuments of Surrealism, the films *Un Chien Andalou* and *L'Âge d'Or*. In the next 20 years he managed to be a film producer in Spain, an activist abroad for the Republican side in the Civil War and a victim of the McCarthy blacklist. In the fifties (and they were his fifties too) he re-emerged as a film maker in Mexico; and during the next quarter century reaffirmed himself as one of the most original, uncompromising and (paradoxically) most popular of the world's great film artists.

All this happened to him - to judge from his autobiography - without any

firm desire or determination on his part. His path in life seems to have been directed mainly by curiosity and a readiness to accede to any suggestion or request, provided only that it promised interest. The autobiography itself seems to have been done in much the same spirit. It was written down by his friend and collaborator, Jean-Claude Carrière, and provided Buñuel with some amusement in the last year of his life. The title is less a macabre joke than a cool observation. Buñuel at 82 was still as lucid and funny and ironic, as quick of wit and outrageous in opinion. "Don't ask my opinion about art," he says, "because I don't have any". Then he goes on to tell how he and two of his friends had thought of blowing up Picasso's "Guernica", but were deterred by their advisors.

Buñuel delighted in paradox. His most famous saying, "Thank God I am still an atheist" dates from 1961 and *Viridiana*. Another paradox is how close his Surrealism is to a very Spanish reality. Most often the apparent irrationalities of his films were not spun out of the subconscious, but observed, with delight,

from life. The book is full of examples. When the hero of *El Suspiro* is a young man, on the other side, jabs a needle through the beach at San Sebastian in 1913, where the girls used their bathings to repel peeping toms outside the bathing huts. The mysticism, ceremonial, mortality and sadism of religion in Catholic Calanda was rich in inspiration for the future Surrealist.

Nor was that "Thank God..." so paradoxical. Atheism like Buñuel's can only be the outcome of original deep-rooted faith. In youth "we were worn out with our oppressive sense of sin, coupled with the interminable war between instinct and virtue." Perhaps some of the fascination of Buñuel's art is that even the Surrealist experience did not succeed in fully resolving the conflicts. For instance, he despises Latin machismo; and yet in his eighties it was still a trouble within him. There is guilty regret that he was never a manizer (he stayed married for almost 50 years to his loyal Jeanne), and there is the Catholic Latin's anxiety about homosexuality. Paradoxical, again, because it is clear that the being he loved

above all in his life was Federico García Lorca. He relates a sad anecdote of a day when he indignantly demanded, "Is it true you're a maricon?" (which is a rude way of putting it). At 82 he still had not sorted it out, but mumbled with embarrassed apology, "There was absolutely nothing effeminate or affected about Federico". Then he passes with relief to happy memories of queer-bashing as a youth.

If his best friend bewildered him, Buñuel is unimpeachably malicious about the sexual oddities of the friend who later proved an enemy, Salvador Dalí, not to speak of "the famous Gala, the woman I have always tried to avoid." With deep regret he relates how he once stopped short of strangling her. Later she paid him out by trespassing in the dreams which were one of the lasting pleasures of Buñuel's life (second, perhaps, to his dry martini).

With 50 years' hindsight, he sums up the Surrealist achievement and failure: "Their aims were not to establish a glorious place for themselves in the annals of art and literature, but to change the world, to



Gentle genius photographed by Leon Herschritt

transform life itself. This was our essential purpose, but one good look around is evidence enough of our failure." He was certainly not very impressed with the world that he left last year - "kept in smooth working order by that technological 'progress' which has exiled morality and spirit to a far distant territory. Chaos, in the form of entropy, has assumed the demonic disguise of the population explosion." In leaving the world, though, he felt the regret of quitting a serial in the middle. Little as he liked the world and much as he hated the press, his final desire was that he might rise from the grave every 10 years and buy a few newspapers. "Ghastly pale, sliding silently along the walls, my papers under my arm, I'd return to the cemetery and read about all the disasters in the world before falling back to sleep, safe and secure in my tomb." It will be nice if he exchanges another jest or two as he passes.

### Trevor Phillips reviews Roy Kerridge Black on white on black

**Real Wicked, Guy**  
By Roy Kerridge  
(Blackwell, £8.95)

Authors who use slang titles want readers to know from the word go that they are about to be led into a secret and dangerous world by a wise and knowing guide. Unfortunately fashions change quickly. Roy Kerridge's efforts to convince us that he has a special insight into Britain's black communities falls apart from the title page onwards. Someone should have told him that the expression "real wicked, guy", which can have a whole range of meanings between good and sensational, passed away as a current streetwise exclamation some time ago.

This is an outsider's book. That by itself isn't a condemnation. The stranger's eye can often reveal truths about any community that have been unseen or hidden because we'd rather not see them. And unfortunately this touristic account of his ramble through the black community has produced a confusing, offensive and frequently pernicious little tract.

It is light on fact and long on impression. Nowhere in its 200 pages, for example, will the reader find out anything as simple as the number of black people who live in Britain. But to Kerridge the absence of fact hardly seems to matter. His stock in trade is the use of highly coloured portraits of acquaintances we are meant to accept as typical. The fact that most of the names used are "fictitious", as the author's note says, doesn't inspire confidence in their reality. And he stretches our credulity by attributing the most preposterous views to them. For example, we are

asked to believe that a black South London housewife describes the National Front as "perfect gentlemen, very quiet". It's not surprising, though, that Kerridge avoids factual material. On the few occasions where he usually gets it wrong and frequently in the most grossly insulting fashion. The brown skinned Jamaican leader Michael Manley, who is a son of one of Jamaica's oldest families, is described as "to all intents and purposes, a white man". We're told that a particular form of reggae music, called "lover's rock", originated in Jamaica. In fact, it is probably the only purely British form of reggae music, invented and popularized by schoolgirl balladeers like Janet Kay and Carroll Thompson.

This kind of sloppiness could be dismissed lightly if the book provided any real insights to the character and personality of the black community. However, it is another, more dangerous side to this book. Bigotry is always hungry for new slogans. And Roy Kerridge provides a feast. In the first 20 pages we are told without a sniff of evidence in a quick succession that "mugging" originated in West Africa, that African wives are sold for nothing when their husbands get tired of them, that the KGB and prostitutes, supplied by black "pimps", we hear once again the ludicrous old saw that "husbands are thin on the ground in West Indian households", and that West Indian men are temperamental, unable to be businessmen (they become unhappy and troubled), though their wives make excellent market traders in Africa. The only business, it seems, that blacks can shine at is "... the illegal selling of drink

... to which they take like a duck to water". This kind of racist nonsense even extends to the black church. He describes churches populated by "ragged looking girls" and "fool-shuffling young men". This is light years from the reality - a dynamic, self-aware and businesslike movement that attracts tens of thousands of stylish and ambitious young men and women.

And finally in the course of an extraordinary attack on the Rastafarian movement, he kindly explains that becoming a woman convert sometimes means "becoming a prostitute to support a God-chosen spouse". Kerridge even manages to take a swipe at the "dubious, moral influence" of the late Bob Marley, whose moral message amounted to the slogan "love and peace".

What seems to worry Kerridge most is the use of the term "black" to describe people of African descent. But it is a fact that today people all over the world use that word to describe themselves. Whether it's a personal problem - perhaps a consequence of his dislike of his African stepfather - or a political one, I don't know. But, like many people in this country, he still clings to the idea that "integration" means black people becoming exactly the same in behaviour and outlook as whites.

It's a view that withered during the seventies with a rise in black consciousness all over the world. Surely we've learnt by now that what's needed is a real understanding of differences amongst people: this book doesn't help in that task. Rather, it's a vulgar and bigoted assault on all the things that give black people pride and identity.

### Fiction of the week Learn about women from me

**From Sleep Unbound**  
By André Chedid  
Translated by Sharon Spencer  
(Swallow, £12.75, paperback, £6)

**Natural Victims**  
By Isabel Eberstadt  
(Cham & Windus, £8.95)

**Painting Water**  
By Teresa Waugh  
(Hamish Hamilton, £8.95)

A sensitive and thwarted woman, who has never given or received the love of which she is capable, lies in psychosomatic paralysis, watched over by her embittered, spiteful sister-in-law, visited by the perfunctory kiss of the lumpish, uncaring husband to whom she was consigned at the age of 15. There will be one kiss too many. *From Sleep Unbound* begins dramatically; but much of this delicately composed, elegant novel is a gentle and simple story of a woman searching for herself in a world of callous unimaginative male supremacy. André Chedid writes in French. She was, however, born in Cairo and evidently understands with great compassion the predicament of such women as Samya, her central character, in the Egypt in which the novel is set.

The writing, disclosing bitter, painful truths, is deceptively lyrical; yet the story does more to convince readers of the misery and desperation of people like Samya, whose natural power of loving will know no requital, than many longer, more strident books asserting the right of a woman to be herself, and consequently

so much more. The translation seems to be extremely successful, though readers may perhaps be warned that the pretentious introduction to the book will do very little to prepare them for its excellence.

The *Natural Victims* of Isabel Eberstadt's title are, it would appear, the "visible rich". Mrs Melmore is a superb, American widow of an unbelievably (sic) rich and powerful monster, searching for her grievously deranged daughter in Paris. Fleeing, most understandably, from her dreadful family soon after her father's death (a matter of some mystery), the poor girl is endowed by the terms of his will with considerable funds. She is exploited in turn by a ferocious lesbian and a group of political ingenues. After a disastrous encounter on a street corner with her mother, she falls into the hands of an unusually evil compatriot, Jack Straw and his disturbed accomplice, Maurice.

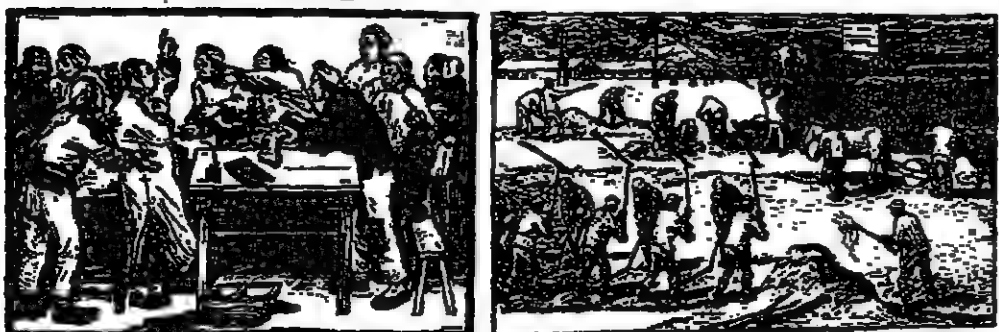
Mrs Melmore enlists, then discards temporarily, the aid of a dowdy, eccentric sister, whose principal function in the novel seems to be to allow Mrs Melmore to embark on long retrospectives about their girlhood, her excruciating experience of marriage and motherhood, and everything else which leads up to the story so far. These conversations are counterpointed in the early sections of the book by terse, vivid chapters about what is actually happening to Mrs Melmore's daughter, Sarah. Up to a point these are gripping and effective. The structure is, however, wretchedly elaborate, embellished by affected chapter-headings; often the narrative strains for effect, while dialogue that should have been terse is banal, limp, even otiose. Mrs

Melmore herself, allegedly a supremely sophisticated, high-spirited, immensely assured and attractive woman, is presented as vacillating, vain and vapid, falling prey to the illiterate, predatory hick whose curious "powers" were already enthralled her daughter. The contradictions in her character and her own image of herself are excelled in their demands on the reader's forbearance only by the coincidences upon which the plot depends and the melodrama of its resolution.

By contrast, *Painting Water* by Teresa Waugh is a novel of unassuming but certain quality. It is a straightforward story of the life of placid, pretty, contented woman, married to a suburban estate agent who devoted to the cultivation of his garden. In her relationships with her parents, sister, husband, children and friends, Alice Taylor always makes the best of this world made possible and tolerable for her by her own kindness and decency. At the same time, this gentle novel is illuminated with wit, moments of high comedy, occasional farces and flashes of delightful sarcasm: not least in the exposure of the fatuities of fashionable liturgy which offend the humanist as much as they do the faithful. The ironies built into the plot are neat and credible; but there is, sometimes, a whiff of patrician scorn lingering between the lines like expensive scent in a humble room through which someone fairly special has passed. The writing is lucid and beautifully accurate in its use of home-counties adverbs. Altogether a thoroughly enjoyable and eventually quietly moving book.

Stuart Evans

### Crossing the bamboo-pattern bridge



Woodcuts of the thirties show peasants denouncing landlord on the left, and soldiers helping with the harvest

**The Heart of the Dragon**  
By Alasdair Clayre  
(Collins, £12.95)

"I had never seen anything that bore any manner of resemblance to them in any Part of the World that I had been before." So wrote an incredulous Père Attiret from Peking in the late 1740s, and one sympathetic to the Jesuit father. At least China may once again be visited; but does that make it any the more comprehensible?

Attiret was talking about the exquisite gardens of Peking, (and, in doing so, set about a fat for cod chinoiserie which dogs us to this day) but he might as well have been referring to the Middle Kingdom itself. There is a lazy turn of mind which suggests that had

Chiang Kai Shek not proved such an awful general, and Mao been driven back into the mountains whence his army came, China would have gone down the path of the rest of Asia, caged on by Henry Luce, a haven of Holiday Inns, wide-eyed GIs, and phoney orientalism, just like Thailand, the Philippines, or even the exotic Threeland of Hongkong.

It simply isn't so. One of the main tasks of any book such as this is to explain to those who do not already know that what we so often regard as Chinese, socially, culturally or even gastronomically, is equally as foreign to the billion-odd inhabitants who make up the People's Republic. Conditioning? Perhaps, but if so, it is not recently done, and one need only read this book for the proof. It seems from Clayre's

researches for a promising new television documentary series which begins on Channel 4 at the end of the month, and if there is a better general guide to China for those who have not visited the country, then I am unaware of it.

Quite why we are so ignorant of China is something of a mystery itself, and one which is not explained by the hostility of the nation to all but fellow travellers for nearly 30 years from the victory of the communist forces. Neither is it the case that China has always been reflected in the West's imperial mirror (though it frequently has); there have been enough hand-made truths, is deceptively years to counter that form of indulgence.

Perhaps it is simply, as Clayre intimates, that China is so different to any of the social models which we know, be they

communism, democracy, or dictatorship, and too allied to such distant ideas as Daoism and Confucianism that the bridge has traditionally proved too long to cross.

The author's approach is to break down his subject matter into logical areas of interest - believing, eating, correcting and so on - and to tackle each in terms of historical attitudes and modern practice. So the chapter on crime and punishment contains a fascinating account of the trial of a Nanjing cat burglar, predictably enough after her neighbour's television set, and an account of traditional attitudes to criminals.

The chief criticism of the book is the way it sometimes follows the form of the television series at its own expense. The introductory chapter, "Remembering", would have been more successful if it had been written as a genuine introduction, instead of mirroring the shape of the television series. In general, however, one can only applaud such a comprehensive venture, well produced and with copious illustrations both ancient and modern.

It may not spark that exquisite fusion of recognition which an experienced China hand feels upon recognising a fellow addict of the orient, but that is not its purpose. Beginners on the silk route should start here.

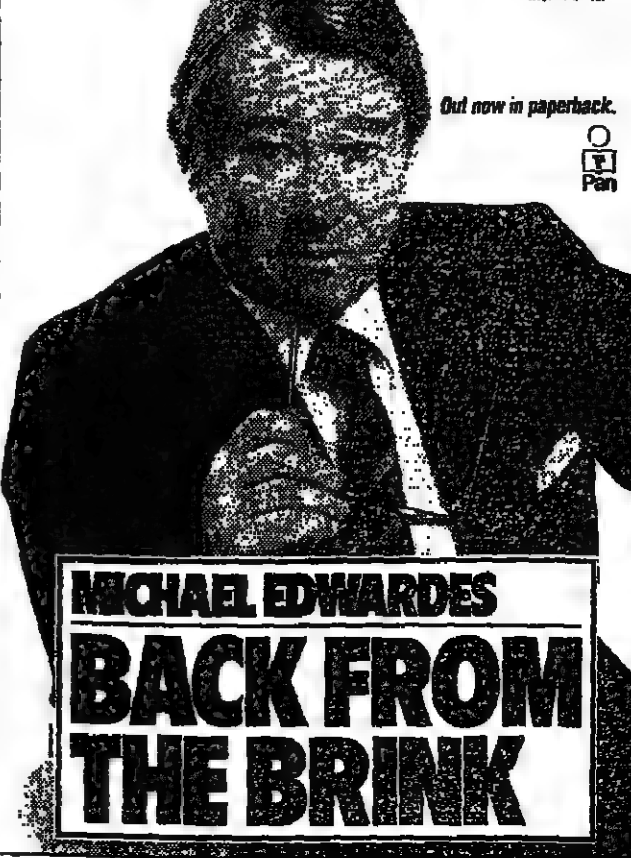
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ROBERT HALE



## A thinking centre for government

"I claim not to have controlled events but confess plainly that events have controlled me." Every politician could say the same as Abraham Lincoln, but understanding virtually all of them refrain. Even Lincoln's candid admission that his actions had not been determined by his deeply held personal conviction that slavery was wrong, but had evolved pragmatically in defence of the nation and constitution, was made privately in a letter.

Yet for politicians to accept the imperatives of necessity and try to use them wisely is usually the better part of valour, and is nothing to be ashamed of. To fight for a wholly untenable position when the outcome is general ruin is never good politics. The best sort of politics is that in which the politician apprehends necessity and fights for it with the instinctive understanding that the fight should be fought and can be won because ultimately, it has public support. That was the essential character of Mrs Thatcher's struggle against inflation in the last Parliament. But what comes next?

With inflation beaten back to 5 per cent, and growth this year forecast at 3 per cent, Mrs Thatcher has decided that further economies in the public sector can be achieved only by improved efficiency, and that public spending reduced only as a proportion of the nation's total product by the growth of the latter. It is hard to quarrel with it in terms of immediate politics.

Many decades ago, the state took over responsibility for health, education and other essential services, and it cannot now take an axe to them if the result is to diminish the standard of state provision on which the overwhelming majority of the people has been brought to depend. But Mrs Thatcher appears to go further. She is disinclined to go further. She is disinclined to reconsider the basic structure, size and financing of the public-sector services in the long term. When, therefore, the axe of retrenchment is again brought out, it will as usual be directed at the easiest trees to chop, for lack of any clear scale of priorities.

The other day, on BBC's *Question Time*, Mrs Thatcher's former adviser, Sir John Hoskyns, again returned to the theme that ministers do not have time to think, and that nowhere in Whitehall is there a central body doing any long-term thinking. Francis Pym and Denis Healey, who were in the same discussion, insisted that they had time to think when in the Cabinet, but then they would. Few ministers, except in the confidence of personal friendship, are going to admit that it is all they can do to keep up with the papers shovelled in front of them daily, and with the schemes devised for them in the hope of being able to master enough to avoid political danger. Besides, a thinking mechanism at the centre might seriously subordinate individual ministerial responsibility, which is the stuff of political dignity, to collective Cabinet responsibility.

Some Tory backbenchers have been brooding over these things and an idea has been mooted. It is that the Prime Minister should reactivate a dormant scheme, the office of the Paymaster-General, placing the PMG in Number 10 at the head of

something like a Prime Ministerial department which could undertake both forward thinking and the coordination of immediate policy-making. It could be a replacement of the Think Tank. But instead of consisting of inspired amateurs operating outside the mainstream Whitehall system, it would comprise politicians and civil servants working within the machine. All Whitehall papers would be copied to it.

In terms of current policy formulation, for example, it could help the Government to avoid the kind of departmental rivalries and muddle which have made such a mess of Housing Benefits and local government policy. Since the Downing Street department would be made the Government to think ahead on such interrelated subjects as the shape and financing of the public sector, the interaction of welfare benefits and taxation, and the realities facing defence spending.

The Government, of course, has access to forward-thinking outside Whitehall. Although the Conservative Research Department has been down-graded by successive party chairmen and treasurers in search of economies, by means of staff cuts, the Centre for Policy Studies, founded by Mrs Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph, has groups examining policy possibilities for such subjects as welfare. But it has to operate without access to Whitehall papers and the kind of information only Whitehall can provide.

A PMG's department answerable to Mrs Thatcher would, however, be so equipped. Such an idea naturally arouses dislike in other Cabinet ministers who fear it might develop into a White House-type machine which would help to create a presidential Prime Ministership. Yet if the Chancellor of the Exchequer can have a chief secretary in the Cabinet, why should not the Prime Minister have comparable help?

Perhaps because she does not want to stir up trouble, perhaps because of her coolness towards institutional change, Mrs Thatcher appears to have turned the idea down when it was floated in her direction through what might be described as impeccably loyal channels. That is a pity. The idea has the advantage of getting away from the illusion that Whitehall machinery is best cranked up by imported outsiders and quasi-administrative initiatives. Such a Downing Street apparatus would be within the tradition of ministerial responsibility operating through the Civil Service. It is perhaps an idea before its time, but it could come again because the need will persist.

"Now at the end of three years' struggle the nation's condition is not what either party, or any man, devised or expected." That too is Lincoln, at the end of the same letter, but it might as well be Mrs Thatcher at the end of the first phase of her struggle against inflation. Where, then, do we go from here, what circumstances shall we have to confront, how do we confront them? Without adequate means of tackling these questions Mrs Thatcher may find that events have controlled her - not in the best sort of way, as they did Lincoln (or as they did herself in the last Parliament), but in the worst. In other words, they might get out of hand.

Paul Pickering

## Toads that could land you in a hole

Other doctors' waiting rooms are stocked with *Punch*, or glossy guides to buying a country house, or the joys of killing wildlife at great expense. Perversely, my doctor prefers coffee-table books on deadly diseases. Usually these are quite depressing, but in one the other day I found a racy little paper on zombies.

One must be constantly open to new ideas, of course, and the G.L.C. does give grants to some strange people. Even so, I had never dreamed that zombie-ism might be a particular problem in Kensington. But my sawbones must think it worthy of consideration, as does Dr E. Wade Davis in the *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*.

A zombie, as every schoolboy knows, is a person who has been killed and raised from the dead by sinister voodoo priests called bokors. These bokors have thriving private practices in Haiti, as do similar priests in every part of the Caribbean and probably now in west London.

"Zombie-ism exists and is a social phenomenon that can be explained logically," says Dr Wade Davis, a Harvard scientist who has been working with Dr Lamarque Douyon, head of the Port-au-Prince psychiatric centre in Haiti.

They found that one of their customers, a M. Clairvius Narcisse, died in 1962 but was still attending the hospital outpatients department. Under our National Health Service he would have been turned away as no longer eligible for treatment. But Haiti is a caring society.

The doctors found from the clinic's records that Clairvius had been pronounced dead at the local Albert Schweitzer hospital. He could point to a scar on his cheek made, he said, by a coffin nail and often put flowers on his own grave. His family didn't, because it was they who had murdered him.

A simple tale of Haitian country-folk, one might think, to which only the superstitious are susceptible, but not according to the doctors. Wade Davis believes that producing a result of a powerful chemical cocktail which induces the symptoms of death. The main ingredient is a deadly nerve poison contained in the puffer fish called *tetrodotoxin*.

Many restaurants in Japan prepare this fish, a great delicacy if one has a kamikaze outlook. The chef needs a special licence, because to follow a cookery book is a recipe for the last supper. Wade Davis discovered two cases of puffer fish *chicanados* who recovered during their own funerals to the embarrassment of all concerned.

Employees of Japanese-owned companies in Britain can be assured that they will not get puffer fish and chips in their works canteens. "We only serve cod," said a canteen worker at National Panasonic. The Sundry restaurant in London said: "We don't do it. I heard of one chef doing this for the BBC and I hear no more of him." (Are falling producers at the Beeb invited to eat puffer fish rather than suffer the ignominy of enforced resignation?)

If you do not have a puffer handy, the bokors' other standby is certain types of toad that are described as veritable chemical factories. The World Wildlife Fund has recently reported that the *Bombus terrestris* (not to be confused with the *Bombus terrestris* from Angola) has been multiplying in the Welsh valleys. Fortunately the mighty *Bombus terrestris* even more daunting, has yet to be found paddling around Pwllheli.

But, however plausible, this new American theory takes all the fun out of voodoo. Before long a Campaign for Real Zombies will be shutting into action.

Where are people going to get all those frogs and things from anyway? said a devotee of the Brazilian macumba voodoo who runs a videotape exchange in the Portobello Road. "It's easy enough to get the ritual candles and chickens." Candles are fine and can be found all over Kensington, but live chickens cost a present a problem. They tend not to hear you on the hoof. Nor did their delicatessen have either preserved toad or powdered puffer fish.

Obviously has to make do with what's available locally. So if you see someone lurking around Highgate Cemetery with a demented pigeon and a box of Swan Vesta's it could be the Campaign for Real Zombies. Or it might just be my doctor having one last bash at reviving a lucrative private patient.

# What Commonwealth?

by Enoch Powell

In a speech at Leicester last Friday I stated what I took to be a constitutional axiom: "All the public utterances of the Sovereign," I said, "are covered by the advice of ministers". Immediately it was announced on behalf of the Prime Minister that there is an exception to this principle, namely, when the Sovereign is addressing "the Commonwealth".

The consequences of that assertion, if it is valid, are peculiar and alarming; but fortunately I can examine it without criticising the Sovereign or impugning her judgment, because ministerial advice that ministerial advice is not requisite is also ministerial advice, for which ministers must take responsibility and stand question.

If the alleged exception is valid, it must be valid whenever and wherever the Sovereign speaks "to the Commonwealth"; it must apply equally on the Feast of Stephen and on Holy Innocents Day; it must apply whether she addressed "the Commonwealth" from London or Ottawa or Delhi.

Now, it has long been understood that the public utterances of the Sovereign to the people of a realm overseas, be it Australia or Grenada, are covered by the advice of her ministers in that realm. This proposition, admittedly, is not without its difficulties: when the Sovereign is the same person in two or more realms where her ministers may tender divergent or opposing advice on the same subject, but so far the possibilities involved in these different capacities of the Sovereign have not caused embarrassment in practice.

The same principle however is scarcely thinkable in those countries of the Commonwealth which are republics and where

therefore there are no sovereign or ministers. In what capacity does the Sovereign address the citizens of India? As Queen of the United Kingdom, visiting India as she might visit France or Israel? If so, her utterances are covered by the advice of her UK ministers, notably the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary. Or is it as Head of the Commonwealth? If so, there are no responsible ministers by whom she can be advised, because the Commonwealth as such has no government and no ministers, and she must be speaking therefore without responsible advice.

The difficulty is magnified when the Sovereign is conceived as addressing "the Commonwealth" comprising some countries which she rules on the advice of the respective ministers and other countries over which she does not reign at all. This is not merely a curious conundrum. It is a situation which poses an insoluble problem for the Monarch, since there is by definition no common organ of consent and consequently no responsible ministerial advice on which she can constitutionally act. Expressed in other terms, "the Commonwealth" is not a political entity, or indeed an entity at all except in make-believe.

The title "Head of the Commonwealth", against which from the government benches I registered a lone protest upon the second reading of the Royal Titles Bill in March 1953, enshrines a paradox which 30 years ago two countries in particular conspired for their own purposes to ignore: India, in order to become a republic while forfeiting none of

the privileges which allegiance had conferred, and Britain, in order to feed its delusion that the Empire was being transformed into something brighter and better still. The way had been paved, also deliberately, by the disastrous British Nationality Act of 1948, which purported to recognize a common citizenship based not upon common loyalty but upon adding together the citizenships defined by an ever-increasing number of independent states.

It was, incidentally, this severance of citizenship from political realities which made technically possible a huge and unintended settlement in Britain of Asian, African and Caribbean populations. It is the same severance which has placed the monarch in a situation constitutionally inexplicable and indefensible.

There is no doubt where the blame lies. It was upon the advice of the Crown's United Kingdom ministers that the chimera of the Commonwealth was invented and installed. Without the legislation, the UK legislation, of a series of British governments, the paraphernalia of a Commonwealth comprising 18 kingdoms, five other monarchies of which the Queen is not the monarch, and 26 republics, with our Sovereign as its purported "head", could never have come into existence. There is equally little room for doubt who is responsible for its continuance and who alone could end the constitutional contradiction in which the Sovereign has been caught up. It is Her Majesty's ministers in the United Kingdom - who else?

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The author is Ulster Unionist MP for Down, South.

## Jeremy Seabrook on the Prime Minister's politics of fantasy

## An end to fairy stories, please



There has always been considerable public distrust of politicians arising from the discrepancy between what they claim to represent and what they actually achieve. This contradiction has lately become more marked: to such an extent that our political leaders not only do not stand for what they say they do, but in many cases clearly stand for the opposite.

An almost-symmetrical reversal of their historic roles seems to have occurred. Thus Labour becomes a conservative party, dedicated to preserving the health service and to safeguarding traditional industries, the very existence of which is threatened by the recent evolution of capitalism; while the Conservatives are increasingly the proponents of a regenerated laissez-faire formerly associated with the Liberals; while the Liberals themselves are fighting shadowy battles around electoral reform, a ghostly replay of campaigns for the extension of a franchise that no longer has anywhere else to go, a sort of vaporous Chartist crusade.

As for the Social Democratic Party, it clearly embodies the politics of nostalgia - that yearning for consensus which, in its way, is an echo of an older paternalistic hankering for traditional values that resisted the thrusting certainties of political economy.

The one thing in which this game of political musical chairs is consistent is that each position is well anchored in historical precedent. This does not mean that they have no contemporary relevance - after all, the Health Service is well worth preserving, and that Labour should be forced on the defensive does not undermine the value of that enterprise. Similarly, the new phase of capitalism requires the abolition of certain labourist defences, which the Tories have set about with enthusiasm.

But it bears little relation to the positions the parties claim to occupy. Thus, when Margaret Thatcher talks about sweeping away the restrictive practices, modernizing and making way for the "third industrial revolution", it has nothing to do with conserving anything. Quite the reverse.

Similarly, while Neil Kinnock defends jobs in decaying industries, he does not look like a radical force

in the country. And as for the belief that proportional representation would restore universal harmony, one can only wonder at the credulity of those who see the breakdown of consensus as a cause, rather than as a result of the present tensions between the various social and economic forces in the country.

In all these positions, the sense of fantasy is strong, as perhaps befits a country that has lived for so long off its past glory. All the references of contemporary politics suggest a recycling of history, an attempt to interpret a bewildering present and an uncertain future by the invocation of past experience.

This tendency was widely commented on at the time of the Falklands war, but it has been less obvious in domestic policy, even though it has been equally strong there, and perhaps more convoluted.

Mrs Thatcher, after all, came to power as a deliverer. It was her intention to lift the yoke of the oppressor from the British people. That oppressor was, of course, the organized working class. The liberation she has pursued has, however, been able to call upon an earlier liberation from those constraints upon political economy, when it had to be freed from aristocratic interests still encumbered by restrictive practices like a sense of duty to the poor. The poor themselves also believed that they had a right to be protected from a destitution over which they had no control.

All the resistances had to be swept

away of those who obstinately refused to see the workings of divine providence in the freedom of capital and labour to find their own balance.

That a replay of this ancient triumph is the real purpose of the Conservatives since 1979 is clear from the language on which their crusade has drawn. This time, the residual protests of the tradition that derives from the one-nation Tories have been easily brushed aside. It is the attack on labour that has been at the heart of the enterprise. And have not the trade union leaders become the new barons, has not the aristocracy of labour formed itself into an overweening power in the land, has Thatcher herself not referred to the Labour-controlled authorities as "the last vestiges of feudal power"?

The old threat of the poor, the fear of the mob has been displaced by fear of organized labour, and this has been assimilated in fantasy to an irresponsible and feudal power.

This has given Mrs Thatcher an easy and dominant role in the politics of fantasy. What else have been those didactic fables with which she has regaled the nation for five years - families not living beyond their means, what every housewife knows, that domestic imagery which leaps so effortlessly into more exalted truths about the nature of the universe, "those economic laws which simply cannot be abrogated"?

Of course, the contemporary version of these ideas had a more

immediate ring: Malthus's perpetual tendency of population to press against the means of subsistence have evolved into the greedy workers pricing themselves out of jobs, from which they are promptly evicted before our very eyes.

So the deliverance of capital from the fetters of stifling habit and custom, so that it may be free to work its imperceptible but beneficent wonders, has been a repeat of that earlier struggle. And it is this vigorous fantasy that has set the terms of political debate, and has determined the positions of the parties of opposition.

The sense of familiarity, of history repeating itself, of déjà-vu even, serves as a useful and comforting cloak for the dramatic reshaping of our people in the interests of a resurgent and regenerated capitalism. It masks the real dynamic that is at work, reintegrating Britain into the global division of labour in the worldwide empire of capital.

The politics of fantasy offer a reassurance and security, both of which may be in scant supply in the strange new future that is actually being prepared for us. One day we shall have to be rescued from the politics of fantasy, and see them for what they are.

It is unlikely that the awakening will be serene for large numbers of people in Britain. Indeed, Mrs Thatcher has already begun to prepare us for it: it is what she means in the new year message that coyly warns that Britain will become "a chillier, bumpier, less cosy place." © Times Newspapers Limited, 1984

ments have been a "major factor" in achieving union objectives, but which also insist: "The basis of current TUC involvement in government owes much to Churchill's wartime coalition and to Conservative government".

This evident desire to distance the TUC from the party political activities of trade unions is presumably founded on the rhetoric heard at the rostrum in Blackpool, when non party-political white-collar unions argued for a looser relationship with Labour in the wake of the disastrous election result.

The moderates who now control the TUC General Council regard the discussion paper as a good start. The left is understandably dismayed, but it cannot offer a rival prescription for the future, and in the absence of an attractive alternative it must be assumed that the moderates will get their way.

TUC Strategy may be a case of the blind leading the blind - and one deputy general secretary to whom I showed it on a train journey fell asleep during the task of reading it - but it looks like being the springboard for a movement to realign the British labour movement so that it more closely resembles the Scandinavian or West German model.

Paul Rontledge

Labour Editor

## TUC at Lovers' Leap — looking for the arms of its members

"Ineluctably" improve. TUC Strategy admits there is a long way to go before that point is reached. "While workers' support for the movement's policies cannot be measured by the numbers of votes cast for the Labour Party at the general election, neither can the rejection of Labour's policies be dismissed out of hand; some polls indicated that there was a lack of support from trade unionists for some policies that in part mirrored the TUC position."

"This suggests that unions have not yet sufficiently involved members in policy development and have failed to inform members and win their support for union affairs."

"Unions are certainly not winning all the arguments. They have real problems about communicating effectively with their members. In spite of their democratic structures, membership participation in some aspects of union affairs is less satisfactory than in others."

The TUC wishes them to be, would their members necessarily go along with the views of their leaders? The paper admits that the election of a second-term Thatcher government signified that "a major section of the British people was, at the very least, willing to tolerate a philosophy which ran counter to the post-war consensus on the welfare state and full employment".

The TUC is thinking about conducting a MORI poll among union members about the organizations to which they belong and the kind of policies and objectives that they would like. The likely outcome of such a consultative exercise would be to reinforce the political shift taking place within the labour movement, away from the values and attitudes of the blue-collar unions that have traditionally dominated the TUC.

This assertion begs an important question: even if the unions were the consummate communicators that



## THE TIMES DIARY

### Childish rules

A woman with a babe in arms was surprised to be asked to pay £2 for the child at the Unicorn Theatre, which boasts that it is the only theatre in London where children are put first. She was told at the box office that G.L.C. fire regulations meant no one could be let in free. The G.L.C. however, points out that since the Unicorn is a club it is not bound by local authority fire regulations. Theatre clubs need no licence and therefore no fire certificate.

The Unicorn's administrator, Buz Williams, says: "We do ask the G.L.C. for advice and we try to comply with their suggestions as far as possible, but technically the G.L.C. has no authority in this matter." Apologizing for the entry fee for babies, he said this was to discourage parents from bringing along children of the wrong age for a particular production as they tended to be disruptive.

As for the fire problem, Williams says until the G.L.C. allows the Unicorn a public licence, "as a club you have the privilege of paying extra to burn to death."

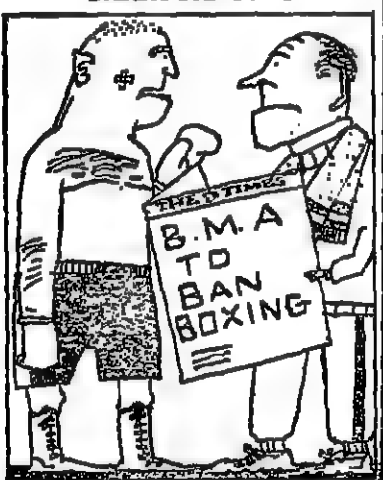
Perhaps Burns Night was not the most auspicious time to launch a *Good Curry Guide*, especially since one of the Swansea restaurants it mentions burnt down the day the guide went to press. Nevertheless, 1,137 of the 1,138 listed eating houses, from Penzance to Inverness, not forgetting Ireland, the Channel Islands and those in a foreign section, are still there - so far.

### Mycenae missed

It grieves me to report that the February issue of the venerable and previously unimpeachable *Illustrated London News*, published today, contains a blatant example of cooking the books. On page 54, readers will note the magazine's archaeology report number 3,000, but this, I can reveal, is a lie. The *ILN* has actually published nearer 6,000 archaeology reports, starting with one in its very first issue in May 1842. Numbering did not begin until 1960, at the behest of the late Sir Bruce Ingram, who edited the magazine for 63 years, but in counting backwards Sir Bruce went no farther than the beginning of his own tenure in 1900.

"It was a pretty conceit on Ingram's part," says the present editor, James Bishop, "to assume that nothing of significance in archaeology had been reported before his time, but before 1900 the discoveries reported in the *ILN* included Schliemann's work at Mycenae, Flinders Petrie in Egypt and the excavations at Nimroud."

BARRY FANTONI



"Don't tell Slegger - he's got a weak heart"

### Pen and politics

Fresh from writing *Roche versus Adams*, published today, Stanley Adams is taking up a different pursuit from authorship, namely European parliament. Mr. Adams, who claims he was hounded round Europe after taking a stand against the trading practices of the multinational drug company Hoffman-La Roche, has put his name down in 10 British constituencies for selection as a Labour Party candidate for June's Euro-elections.

### Hold that tiger

The reappearance of the supposedly extinct Tasmanian Tiger, otherwise known as the Tasmanian wolf and *Thylacynus cynocephalus*, has caught the imagination of the American cable television mogul and yachting enthusiast Ted Turner, who has offered a \$100,000 reward for a confirmed sighting of the beast. Turner, who won line honours in the Sydney-Hobart yacht race a few days before a new glimpse of the tiger was



reported last week, told PHS from his Atlanta headquarters: "I struck me like a thunderbolt when I saw the stuffed one in a Hobart museum. It would be real encouraging in these days of nuclear armament, when we're preparing to make ourselves extinct if we could find and may be save another species from extinction." The Australians are not so sure. The ranger who spotted the beast had kept quiet for 18 months to guard it against harassment, and now Rex Gilroy, of the Strange Animal Investigation Centre, says he hopes Turner's bounty won't tempt "trouble with guns" to go hunting the shy tiger, which was last seen in 1936.

PHS



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-377 1234

## PASSING THE BUCK

President Reagan's economic policy now goes into cold storage until after the election. Next week's Budget will duck the issue of the deficit. But the President cannot so easily put a freeze on the currency markets, through which the rest of the world will feel the uncomfortable ripples of this political war. Yesterday, just before his State of the Union address, the President put up his Treasury secretary, Donald Regan, to talk via satellite with financial journalists in seven European cities. The aim was to reassure America's restless trading partners that the free world's largest economy was in good heart and under firm control. It was not a convincing performance.

According to Mr. Regan, Europe's economic troubles with America will soon be over. The dollar will weaken during 1984, as American interest rates fall further and the current account of America's balance of payments remains heavily in the red. Lower interest rates and a cheaper dollar would please Europe, though it would also (Mr. Regan is never one to miss a point for the folks back home) make American industry more competitive.

This "good news, bad news" syndrome, as put by Mr. Regan, is just a little too glib. If the American recovery slows down even more this spring, the White

House may well want to see interest rates fall in order to keep the wheels of growth turning until after the election. But Mr. Regan refuses to accept that the size of his budget deficit makes this difficult. He points to Japan where the budget deficit is high and interest rates low - neglecting the different nature of Japan's heavily-controlled financial markets, and expressing the pious and improbable hope that Americans could be persuaded to finance the budget deficit cheaply by suddenly acquiring a Japanese appetite for saving.

President Reagan, too, has been cheerfully brushing aside the implications which his deficit has for interest rates. But his central bankers at the Federal Reserve Board are less optimistic - or disingenuous. They know that if interest rates are eased down this spring without any action to reduce the budget deficit, the markets may take fright. Internationally, that could precipitate, not a gentle downward realignment of the dollar, but the kind of slide that is unstoppable without a severe hike in interest rates later on. With a record current account deficit, America is asking the rest of the world to absorb an awful lot of dollars. Mr. Regan listed the reasons they have been easy to place: low inflation, the boom, political stability and high interest rates. But when sentiment

turns, the spectre of the "dollar overhang" that haunted President Carter's attempts to stabilize his currency could be stalking the world's financial markets again.

No British government in this position could face an election with the equanimity displayed by Messrs Reagan and Regan. But then the international side of their economy matters much less to the Americans: a slide in their currency would have only slow and modest consequences for inflation, and would take several months to touch the domestic political battle. The rest of the world would suffer sooner from a switchback dollar. If nothing can be done about the deficit until the election, the least President Reagan can offer his allies is greater honesty about what must be done thereafter. That means more realistic forecasts and acknowledgement that interest rates cannot easily and safely be brought down until the budget is brought under control. It also means acceptance that the tax "reforms" hinted at by Mr. Regan must mean higher taxes; that spending cuts will not, practically speaking, do the job alone.

All this is politically difficult, but without a little honest guidance the markets may turn difficult too. And looking beyond November, it could pay dividends for the President as well.

## THE SOVIET MEGAPHONE

It is good that President Andropov is still delivering copy to Pravda on the need to improve relations with the West, but less welcome is his continued criticism of President Reagan, suggesting that Moscow will make no attempt to reach agreement while the present US administration remains in power. It tends to confirm suspicions that his statement, released to foreign correspondents the day before publication, was intended more for readers abroad than to reassure the Soviet public that their leader is still firmly in control.

Despite repeated assurances that Mr. Andropov will soon reappear in public, his absence since August has encouraged speculation that his faction is now acting in his name rather than under his direct orders, and it seems probable that Soviet policy on arms negotiations is now a holding operation based largely on proposals already dismissed by Nato countries as too vague to lead to any real agreement.

Mr. Andropov is of course right to emphasize that dialogue must be "directed towards the attainment of concrete agreements" but quite wrong to excuse avoiding negotiations by claiming that the recent, more conciliatory speech by President Reagan contained nothing new. The West is ready to return to the proper place for negotiation - the conference table - although present Warsaw Pact proposals

remain much the same as those issued in the Declaration produced at the Prague summit in January 1983.

A non-aggression pact would add nothing to Nato's permanent position as a defensive alliance, while presumably not altering the precarious relationship between the member countries of the Warsaw Pact which allowed Soviet armed intervention in Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Nato's commitment not to use weapons, either nuclear or conventional, except in response to attack, is more valuable in preserving peace than would be an acceptance of the Soviet call to agree to "no first use" of nuclear weapons, whatever the action of the USSR.

Resuming the Vienna talks on mutual and balanced force reduction will allow the West to pursue the Soviet proposals of last June which might permit on-site inspections so that military observers from opposite sides could monitor the arrival and departure of troops into Central Europe. But there remains the large discrepancy in the calculations of East and West for the number of Soviet troops, severely limiting the chances of speedy accord.

For the Soviet statement to insist that there can be no return to INF talks until US cruise and Pershing 2 missiles are removed from Western Europe is quite unrealistic, especially after new Soviet missiles have been

installed, with considerable publicity, in East Germany and Czechoslovakia on the excuse of "maintaining parity". In practice this would appear to mean "maintaining superiority", since in October 1979 President Brezhnev spoke of the "balance of forces" which had been achieved in Europe - yet while Nato deployed no cruise or Pershing 2 missiles until late last year, Soviet SS-20 missiles continued to be installed at an alarming rate.

Some 200 additional warheads had been added to the Soviet arsenal when in January 1983 Foreign Minister Gromyko stated that there was "rough parity" between the two sides. By last September even more SS-20 missiles had been deployed - still before the Nato modernization - and President Andropov was talking of the "balance in medium-range nuclear weapons".

Statements to the press by an unseen Mr. Andropov will not by themselves achieve reductions in arms. A return to the conference tables in Vienna and Geneva might, and it should not be delayed until the outcome of the US elections is known - or until a more positive leadership emerges in the Kremlin. There is much groundwork to be done before any US-Soviet summit can be considered, presuming of course that there is someone in the Kremlin for the US President to meet.

## LONDON... DERRY

If you are Protestant and unionist the place is Londonderry; if you are Catholic and nationalist it is Derry. It sounds simple, but it is not. We are in Ulster.

In the first place most of the town's inhabitants, whoever they may be, regard themselves as Derry-men and call their city Derry, if only for convenience; unless they happen to be on a platform. Then the Protestant bishopric has never found it necessary to change to Londonderry at any time since the place was replanted as a colony by the City of London in 1610. The local cricket club is content with Derry, and no game on earth is less republican than that. Even the Apprentice Boys, one of the toughest manifestations of the Orange Order with some claim to have provoked the latest round of hostilities back in 1969, are the Apprentice Boys of Derry. It is not usage but history which governs reaction to the change of official name that has just been sanctioned.

The Londonderry City Council was notoriously gerrymandered under the old regime. The ward boundaries were managed so as to obtain a standing majority of unionist councillors out of a standing majority of nationalist electors. Since the reforms the SDLP has had control and has

wanted to complete the job by erasing the British prefix in the name of the council. The council applied to the minister, Mr. Christopher Patten, in accordance with the procedure of the Northern Ireland Local Government Act and he has granted the request. Only the name of the district council changes. The city itself remains Londonderry and will unless its royal charter is amended, so does the county. And we still have the Londonderry Air.

The political reaction on the unionist side is just what would be expected. The concession is represented as typical confirmation that the Northern Ireland Office (with or without the Foreign Office, the State Department and the CIA) is bent upon Irish unification; for is it not but a step from changing its name to changing its jurisdiction? Mr. Patten must expect his name to be coupled with the traitor Lundy's. That may not disturb him. But his decision may come to plague the administration of which he is a member - and it was unnecessary when he had a perfectly good legalistic reason for no change: that the council should continue to take its name from the city it arises out of. For the wall of Londonderry is holy ground to

the tribe. It was from there that the cry of "No surrender" first went up. It was the rampart of Protestant Ulster's civil and religious liberty.

Macaulay noted that the wall of Londonderry was to the Protestants of Ulster what the Acropolis was to the Athenians. He found it impossible not to respect the sentiment with which it came to be invested. "It is a sentiment which belongs to the higher and purer part of human nature, and adds not a little to the strength of states." Yet the worm which makes the Englishman (even the occasional Scotsman) such an unreliable guarantor of the Ulsterman was at work in Macaulay too. He could not look with unmixed complacency on the manner in which Londonderry commemorates her deliverance. "The faults which are ordinarily found in dominant castes and dominant sects have not seldom shown themselves without disguise at her festivities." Nothing has happened in the intervening hundred and forty years to alter the basis of that judgment. Even Macaulay, the great justifier of the Irish wars of William of Orange, betrays symptoms of being a Northern Ireland Office man at heart.

Berkshire, Hampshire and Surrey and that this total had remained broadly unchanged since 1946.

I am also aware that it is MoD policy to reject pleas from the local authorities mentioned for land to be released for building. Indeed, this is evidenced by the lack of change in their holdings since the war.

With the ease of modern transportation it is economic nonsense for the MoD to hold on to much of this valuable land for training when so much of it could be done in remote

areas. At least let them be forced to justify their requirements in a positive manner to an independent body.

If war is said to be too serious to leave to generals, the same can certainly be said for their assessment of military land requirements.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY D. R. HOLLAND  
Windsorham Manor,  
Windsorham,  
Surrey.  
January 13.

## Plea for progress on Namibia

From the Bishop of Manchester and others

Sir, South Africa's rejection of Swapo's January 10, 1984, ceasefire proposal amounts to yet another refusal to implement the agreed United Nations plan for Namibian independence (Security Council resolution 435, 1978). The consequence of this position will clearly be to prolong the agony of the war-weary populations of both Namibia and Angola.

The lack of public outcry in this country must stem partly from confusion bred by South Africa's presentation of the issues. Pretoria's position makes peace in Namibia contingent upon the achievement of South African objectives in Angola. It is these objectives which lead to the current death and destruction in Angola, an escalating conflict in which Swapo's armed wing has no role at all. Indeed, contrary to South African claims, not one Namibian has been injured or even involved in the fighting in Angola in recent weeks.

Not only does South Africa refuse to comply with the five-year-old United Nations plan for elections in Namibia, but it has been in military occupation of parts of Angola since 1981 and the United Nations Secretary General's report of January 11, 1984, indicates that South African forces are not withdrawing, but merely retreating to entrenched positions further south.

The only sense in which a Namibian settlement can be linked to the situation in Angola is that South African withdrawal from Namibia in terms of United Nations resolution 435 (1978) would deny UNITA and South African forces occupying and attacking Angola their military base in northern Namibia.

The fundamental fact obscured by recent media coverage is that South African forces have no right to be either in Angola or Namibia, which they have occupied in defiance of international law since 1971, causing enormous suffering on the part of black Namibians.

On January 7, 1984, South Africa's Foreign Minister admitted that his Government's position "can entail confrontation with the whole world." Yet there has been hardly a murmur of protest in this country. This silence amounts to complicity while two nations are held hostage by a regime whose policies our own Government has described as "abhorrent".

We appeal to all who oppose apartheid to condemn South Africa's current aggression and intransigence.  
Yours,  
STANLEY MANCHESTER,  
DENIS HEALEY,  
RUSSELL JOHNSTON,  
c/o The Namibian Support Committee,  
53 Leverton Street, NW5,  
January 16.

## Calke Abbey and CTT

From Lord Saye and Sele

Sir, The President of the Historic Houses Association has, in his letter of January 21, drawn attention to the plight of those historic houses, and notably Calke Abbey, which are prevented by archaic family trusts from establishing CTT-exempt maintenance funds under the Finance Act 1982.

My own lawyers advise me that there is no way in which I can break through the fetters of my family trust in order to establish the appropriate fund needed to secure the long term survival of this historic house.

It is indeed ironic that the family trust system devised in the last century to preserve historic houses and their estates from the ravages of profligate owners can yet prove in this century by their very inflexibility to be their undoing.

The maintenance fund of the Finance Act 1982 is therefore a haven from which some are arbitrarily excluded. This cannot have been the intention of Parliament.

Parliament alone can enact further legislation and it must be hoped that it will do so before other important houses involuntarily share the fate with which Calke Abbey is threatened.  
Yours faithfully,  
SAYE AND SELE,  
Broughton Castle,  
Banbury,  
Oxfordshire,  
January 24.

## Peace studies

From Mr Andrew McIntyre and Miss Vicki Newman

Sir, We read with surprise Lady Cox's allegations (January 9) that Schools Against the Bomb is one-sided when invited into schools. We find it disturbing that Lady Cox neglected to check the facts before her outburst.

Had she checked the facts, she would have discovered that Schools Against the Bomb exists to enable pupils to hear the full facts from both sides of the nuclear debate. Our aim is to let pupils make up their own minds on this issue.

To this end we distribute Government literature alongside our own, and refuse school speaking dates unless a pro-nuclear speaker is also invited.

We provide speaking services to schools for balanced debates and discussions. How can such regard for balance be labelled as political indoctrination?

Yours for peace,  
ANDREW MCINTYRE,  
VICKI NEWMAN,  
(National Organisers),  
Schools Against the Bomb,  
227 Seven Sisters Road, N4,  
January 9.

## Royal broadcast called in question

From the Master of Balliol College, Oxford

Sir, In your leader of January 21 you follow Mr Enoch Powell in criticising the content of the Queen's Christmas message. Mr Powell, punctilious as ever, insisted that he was not attacking the Queen personally but only the ministers (whoever they may have been) who tendered her advice about the speech.

You rebuke Mr Powell for being circuitous and disingenuous. In making the speech, you say, the Queen took no advice and therefore she must be criticised personally and directly for being so naive as to believe there is a gap between rich and poor countries and so in cautious as to suggest that the rich countries should do something about that gap.

Hitherto, there has been a widely respected convention that the Queen should not be personally criticised. This convention does not depend on disputable constitutional niceties concerning advice received by the Head of the Commonwealth. It is based on two principles of decency: first that it is unseemly for a monarch to wrangle with one of her subjects; and secondly that it is churlish to attack someone who is thus prevented from replying to the attack.

You have chosen to violate this convention. A violation would be justified only if the monarch was guilty of a flagrant breach of her duty to be above partisan issues. Did the Christmas message contain such a breach? On the contrary, the charge made against it by Mr Powell and yourself is that it urged us to put global interests above merely national ones.

There is no gap, you say, between rich and poor countries because there is no clear dividing line between the poorest of the rich countries and the richest of the poor countries. You might as well argue that there is no difference between day and night because there is no clear dividing line where one ends and the other begins.

It will be little comfort to those who live in countries where famine is a constant danger to learn that they have their place on a continuous variable in per capita incomes among all the countries of the world.

Some of your readers may be unconcerned by your lapse in logic; some may forgive your discourtesy to the Queen; some may be unmoved by your contempt for the world's poor; but few, surely, will be able to stomach all three at once.  
Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY KENNY,  
The Master's Lodgings,  
Balliol College,  
Oxford,  
January 24.

From Mr Ian Peacock

Sir, There is a "gap" between rich and poor nations. It is not clearly revealed by per capita income figures, although some of these measures indicate that income is becoming more concentrated. Rather it is reflected in the problems which the different types of governments have to face.

For example, a poor nation's government usually has to tackle the problem of large numbers of people who have had to leave the agricultural sector and are seeking work in the towns. On per-capita income figures this group's living standards have improved - after all, when they were in the subsistence agricultural sector they had no money income whatsoever. However, few people who have seen the shanty towns surrounding major cities in the developing world

believe that this group has so far benefited from economic development.

More generally, many governments of developing countries have to cope with the fact that a significant proportion of their population have nowhere to live and are threatened, constantly or intermittently, with starvation. This is a different kind of problem from that of poverty in the developed world and it is perhaps not surprising that the attempted solutions are frequently different.

To distinguish between rich and poor nations in this way is not "insidious egalitarianism" and implies no policy recommendations, apart from that of seeking to alleviate suffering, an aim common, I would hope, to both right and left.

The Queen's comment that the main aim of the Commonwealth is to redress "the economic balance between nations" does not mean, as you seem to imply, that income has to be taken from one group and given to another. The balance could equally well be achieved by ensuring that the means exist for those who are poor to become richer.

The important debate is then whether interventionism or the free market system is the better method to achieve this end.

Yours faithfully,  
IAN PEACOCK,  
28 Staveley Road,  
Chiswick W4,  
January 23.

From the Dean of Christ Church, Oxford

Sir, Not many weeks ago you launched a gratuitous attack on the enthronement sermon of the Archbishop of York. Now you have overreached yourself by a supercilious and deeply offensive criticism of the Queen's Christmas broadcast.

Those who have followed your pronouncements on religious and social issues during the last year will recognise that these two bouts of sniping (from the cover of anonymity) are simply the most recent moves in a sustained political campaign. One of its aims is to protect public policy from Christianity.

Yours faithfully,  
E. W. HEATON,  
The Deanery,  
Christ Church,  
Oxford,  
January 24.

From Mrs Nerissa Jones

Sir, Your second leader today is very shocking. No "gap"?

Let the Queen, as Head of the Commonwealth, use plain words in her Christmas broadcast. There is a clear line of division between rich and poor countries and it should be the main aim of the Commonwealth to redress "the economic balance between nations".

"Gap" describes it better than your "continuous range in per capita incomes among all the countries of the world". That makes it easy to ignore Lazarus lying at the rich man's gate.

Lazarus knew what a "gap" was. So would anyone who heard with me last year these lucid, pitiful and true words spoken by one of the truly destitute patients in a Commonwealth West African psychiatric hospital: "Oh, Sister, get me something to eat, or I shall die tomorrow".

The patient was wrong. It took him three more days to starve to death. "Gap" is the word.

Yours faithfully,  
NERISSA JONES,  
32a St. Petersburgh Place, W2,  
January 21.

## Church and remarriage

From The Reverend John Palmer

Sir, Clifford Longley's report (January 13) refers to a "revolt of the clergy (Anglican) on plans to remarry in church" those who have had a previous marriage end in divorce.

The headline is misleading: it is option G of Synod's proposals that have been decisively rejected by the clergy in many dioceses. The parochial clergy are well aware of the danger of pastoral breakdown between clergy and people that may ensue if option G is adopted.

The originators of the proposals for "remarriage" were motivated by the need for greater understanding, compassion and support for the many whose first marriage had failed, but somewhere along the line these motives have been overlaid by administrative and financial structures and at the moment there is a feeling that there is no real way forward on the road that Synod is trying to drive us up.

However there is a way in which the Church's expression of Christ's love can be shown without putting on one side the standards which

Christ himself has given us. A lot of time and energy has been expended in producing the new ASB, but nowhere in that book can be found a service for use in church following a civil marriage (the words "blessing" and "thanksgiving" have been deliberately avoided as they can lead to divisive argument).

If such a service could be produced for general use and much made of it, instead of "pushing it in a corner", as is the tendency at present, this would, I am sure, be acceptable to most clergy and laity, as many of us have found, to a really worthwhile pastoral relationship with couples who wish to remarry and follow this by a service in church.

Compromises often satisfy no one; this is not a compromise suggestion but a way forward for the Church to show those very feelings of understanding, compassion and support that the Synod's present proposals are in danger of losing sight of.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN R. PALMER,  
The Vicarage,  
Four Marks,  
Hampshire,  
January 13.

## Academics as judges

From Mr Gershon Ellenbogen

Sir, As one who spent some years as a part-time university lecturer, I am not unsympathetic to the proposal that academics should be eligible for judicial appointment, but I would venture to suggest an important limitation.

The academic lawyer, almost by definition, has less worldly and practical experience than the practitioner, who is in direct contact with criminals, estranged spouses, businessmen, landlords and tenants, and so on *ad lib* (depending on the nature of his practice, which may be specialised or very general indeed).

The academic, unless he has had some experience of practice, is also unfamiliar with the cut and thrust of forensic questioning and argument and with the procedure of the courts. He is, therefore, less likely to be as good a judge on questions of fact,

which turn on the reliability of witnesses as well as on the rules of pleading and evidence, as the practitioner is.

If academics are to be appointed to the judiciary, then let such appointments be limited to the House of Lords. When a case reaches that ultimate tribunal questions of fact will have been conclusively decided, and the function of reconciling or resolving differences, apparent or real, between lines of authority in the lower courts - a function which often involves considerations of public policy and of jurisprudential logic - is one which the professor of law is admirably qualified to fulfil.

It is at that level that he can contribute both to the correct decision in the case and to the proper development of the law.

I am etc  
GERSHON ELLENBOGEN,  
c/o Gray's Inn Square, W.C.I.,  
January 17.

## Data protection reassurance

From the Minister of State, Home Office

Sir, It would be a pity if the two letters which you have published recently about the Data Protection Bill (January 10 and 19) were to arouse quite unnecessary fears about the Bill's implications for historical records.

The Bill establishes eight principles to regulate the automatic processing of personal data and one of those principles declares that such data should not be held longer than is necessary for their stated purpose. But I think your correspondents may not have fully appreciated the effect of the special provision (in schedule 1, part II, paragraph 7) to ensure that personal data can be held indefinitely for historical purposes. It is not necessary that the data should originally have been collected for historical purposes.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID WADDINGTON,  
Home Office,  
Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,  
January 23.

## Attacks in Tube

From Mr Christopher Hurst

Sir, The horrific story told by Mr P. M. Healy (January 13) of assaults on London Transport ticket collectors could not have happened on the underground systems of Washington DC and San Francisco, where both entry to and exit from the platforms are fully automated, or even on the relatively antiquated system of New York City, where the traveller has to buy a token before being able to operate the turnstile leading onto the platform and has to give up nothing at all on completion of the journey.

Presumably it is the unions who insist on the exit gateways in London being manned, and who could instigate moves which would make assaults of the kind Mr Healy describes largely avoidable.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER HURST,  
5 Brookway,  
Blackheath, SE3,  
January 13.

## In wartime India

From Mr R. S. Bains

Sir, Mr Philip Mason claims in his letter (January 11) that the men who resisted attempts to join the Indian National Army were subjected to heavy pressure, torture and brutality. I would like to point out that this charge, although central to the prosecution case, was not conclusively established by the Advocate General of India.

During the trial which began on November 5, 1945, the prosecution council did try to prove the alleged ill-treatment of the Indian prisoners of war in order to force them to join the Indian National Army. He presented a total of 25 witnesses before the court.

When these witnesses were cross examined by the defence counsel, the majority of them clearly and frankly admitted that they told the court what they had been tutored. The prosecution counsel, with all the state machinery at his disposal failed to prove that the accused had in any way committed any torture or atrocity. The accused, however, were found guilty of waging war against the King.

Under these circumstances it is highly inappropriate to accuse those men of the charge that could not be substantiated in the court of law.

Yours faithfully,  
R. S. BAINS,  
34 Shere Road,  
Ganis Hill,  
Essex,  
January 14.

## Fresh avenues

From Mr Richard Rogers

Sir, I fail to follow the logic of Gav. Stamp's piece in *The Times* dated December 31 ("A new avenue for the architects") in which he states a case for retaining the 1947 Planning Act on the basis that legislation has allowed to be built some new acceptable new buildings along Shaftesbury Avenue.

What Mr Stamp has failed to point out is that it is this same legislation that has led to the architectural disasters in cities such as Liverpool, Glasgow and London where Euston Road, Oxford Street and the Albert Embankment, across from the Houses of Parliament, are but a few examples.

The cost and time involved in responding to these exceptionally stringent laws, especially those covering aesthetics, have not even produced better environmental planning when compared with countries where planning laws are related primarily to zoning and not to aesthetics.

The present system takes away the direct responsibility for the environment from the public and the architect. Furthermore it encourages the client to seek an architect whose strength is political rather than creative, resulting in the loss of design quality, the very principle the legislation was set up to prevent.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD ROGERS,  
Richard Rogers & Partners Ltd.,  
49 Princes Park,  
Holland Park, W11,  
January 13.

## Times standing still

From Mr D.R.W. Potter

Sir, I notice from your paper this morning that nobody was born, became engaged, married or died. This is a record, or something to do with 1984?

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID R.W. POTTER,  
16 William Mews,  
Lowndes Square, SW1,  
January 18.

## Green belt land

From Mr Anthony Holland

Sir, Your leading article (January 12) is correct that the pressure on housing land in the South-east is not going to abate, but that should not mean that green fields and beauty spots should have to be despoiled to meet the appetite of house-builders.

In answer to a parliamentary question on June 1, 1981, the Defence Secretary stated that his department owned 56,192 acres in







## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

# Euston property coup for British Land

Mr John Ritblat, the chairman of British Land, yesterday appeared like a dog with two tails: as well he might after months of negotiation with George Wimpey to buy its half share in Euston Centre Properties. For £39.9m, British Land acquired no fewer than 12 acres of London, an impressive, prospective rent roll of £10m, a 15p per share increase in net asset value, and some useful franked income to set against Advance Corporation Tax. And the price paid is an astonishing 40 per cent discount on the property's underlying value.

British Land has taken pains to reassure shareholders that the price paid to Wimpey can be met from its own resources: rights issues from property companies are always bad news because they dilute the net asset value of shares and the n.a.v. is the best arbiter of a property company's performance. Some of the cash has been recouped by the sale of 3 per cent of stock conversion shares, which came as part of the deal. About £5m of the price relates to Vogue House, an office building in Hanover Square, London W1. Vogue House and the Euston Centre interest were valued in ECP's last accounts at almost £120m. The Euston Centre's tenants include Thames Television and ICL. Vogue House's include Condé Nast Publications.

Mr Robert Clark, chairman of Stock Conversion, owner of the other half of ECP, must wonder how the clever Mr Ritblat has done it. In fact the deal raises rather more questions than it answers for George Wimpey. Since that company was set up by a certain Godfrey Mitchell, later knighted, in 1919, it has not been noted for its willingness to explain its actions. Yesterday it was characteristically reluctant to offer reasons for selling beyond "happiness" with the outcome. What is clear is that Wimpey has £60m worth of property to dispose of.

The company has been changing its profile since Sir Godfrey Mitchell bowed out in 1979 and though £31.5m, or even £60m, is not huge by Wimpey's standards, the cash would be useful to help strengthen its drive in the private housing market. Wimpey is not comfortable with Sir Lawrence Barratt's Barratt Developments in pole position. There are also some signs that Wimpey has its eye on aggregate acquisitions: aggregates are a limited resource and rivals like Tarmac and Amey Roadstone have been busy buying. Wimpey can hardly afford to be left standing.

Of immediate interest is the fate of the Grove Charity Management's 49.9 per cent stake in Wimpey. Rumour says that it is for sale: there are plenty of precedents for family trusts deciding it is too dangerous to leave all their eggs in one basket. But whoever controls Grove controls Wimpey.

## Unitary tax raises more hackles

After a lull induced by President Reagan's delaying tactic of appointing a high commission, it looks as though the campaign against unitary taxation is gathering momentum. Mr Michael Grylls, Conservative MP for Surrey North West, will be seeing Mr John Moore, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, on February 13 to seek a provision in the Finance Bill allowing the Government to abolish advanced corporation tax relief on American companies in Britain.

In any event, the threat to abolish ACT relief will be taken seriously by American companies who in the last three years have been saved £531m.

It is hardly surprising, therefore, that Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary, yesterday tried to mollify European opinion by saying that his commission would come up with a solution soon.

## The Fund under critical fire

The International Monetary Fund is in a no win situation. The financial assistance it provides for member countries in distress is apt to be condemned as largesse for the undeserving while the economic and financial disciplines it seeks to impose may also be condemned as brutal instances of grinding the faces of the deserving. Much of the "research" into the IMF's record, behaviour and attitudes, is too biased for words and therefore more words need not be wasted in reporting it.

That however, is not the case with a major new study of the Fund's policies toward developing countries by a team under Mr Tony Killick, Director of the Overseas Development Institute. Mr Killick does not make sufficient allowances for the real world - and the shortage of available resources to hand out - in which the Fund has to operate, but his team's criticisms do merit serious consideration and some of his team's recommendations ought to be taken to heart by the Fund's masters who have the power to alter its ways.

The central criticism is that pressure from the Reagan Administration and hardline European governments after 1981 compelled the Fund to tighten the conditions it imposes on borrowing countries. Since then deficit countries have more frequently been pressed to devalue their currencies and asked for deeper commitments to change domestic economic policies.

In essence, the Fund is accused of tackling contemporary balance of payments problems with the same approach as it adopted in the 1960s. This, despite the fact that the problems facing deficit countries have changed fundamentally since that time, and in the face of evidence that the Fund's prescriptions are not working effectively.

The Killick remedy is a new "real economy" approach for countries with deep seated payments problems. He and his colleagues argue strongly for changes in the "conditionality" laid down by the Fund before granting credits to deficit countries. They call on the Fund to initiate regular action to mobilize new funds from multilateral, bilateral and commercial sources.

Mr Killick observed yesterday that "reductions to trade and payments restrictions are not best described as 'adjustment'." More usefully, "the World Bank has distinguished between adjustment based upon slower growth, which narrows deficits by reducing imports, and adjustments based on changes in the structure of output and demand in favour of the production of exports and import substitutes."

This is a distinction that the IMF might also adopt when drawing up programmes for the errant and the overdrawn. *The Quest for Economic Stabilization* (£16.50) and *The IMF and Stabilization* (£15) published by the Heinemann Educational.

# Record exports lift current surplus to £2 billion

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Britain ran a current account surplus on the balance of payments of more than £2 billion last year, four times the level predicted by the Treasury last November, and there are signs that the trade account may be improving after a sharp deterioration in the first half of last year.

Exports have risen rapidly since last autumn to record levels, boosted by the revival in world trade. They pushed the visible trade balance into surplus in the final quarter after big deficits earlier in the year. If the trend continues another substantial current account surplus looks likely this year, in sharp contrast to the Government's forecast of a zero balance.

Last month's £495m surplus on trade in goods, announced yesterday by the Trade and Industry Department, was the biggest for a year. A jump in exports to a record total of £5.9 billion included a 9.5 per cent rise in deliveries of finished manufactures, as well as higher oil exports.

The inclusion of an estimated £210m surplus on invisible trade-services such as insurance and shipping - brought the current account surplus to £705m, more than twice the £317m recorded the month before.

Britain's trade performance remains heavily dependent on oil. The oil surplus increased from £4.6 billion in 1982 to £6.9 billion last year while the deficit on non-oil trade widened from £2.5 billion to £7.9 billion.

About £5 billion of this non-oil deficit is attributable to trade in manufactures, the first time Britain has been a net importer of manufactured goods since the Industrial Revolution 200 years ago.

Sir Terence Burns, the Government's chief economic adviser, said last week that he saw no prospect of eliminating the manufactured trade deficit as long as Britain had a surplus on oil.

Even the oil surplus, however, was not enough to keep visible trade from a £1 billion deficit last year, compared with a surplus of £2.1 billion the year before.

Total exports rose by 1.5 per cent in volume terms in last year but when oil and erratic items such as ships and aircraft

## UK TRADE

£m, seasonally adjusted

	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
1982	3378	2118	2258
1983	2016	-954	2970
1983 Q1	781	-163	944
Q2	-171	-669	498
Q3	603	-295	898
Q4	803	173	630
Oct	-219	-429	210(p)
Nov	317	107	210(p)
Dec	705	495	210(p)

(p) projections subject to revision

Source: Department of Trade and Industry

are excluded they fell by 1 per cent. On the same basis imports were 9 per cent up from 1982.

But the latest figures are more encouraging. Non-oil exports rose 8 per cent in the final quarter last year, including a jump of 39 per cent in car exports, compared with a 6 per cent increase in imports.

The better export performance mainly reflects a pickup in the economies of Western Europe, with which Britain does more than half its trade, and the continuing boom in the United States.

Nevertheless the government will be disappointed that Britain's recovery has spurred imports rather than domestic production.

While manufacturing output has remained sluggish imports of consumer goods rose by 10.5 per cent and imports of capital goods by 16.4 per cent last year, reaching record levels at the year-end.



Sir Terence Beckett, CBI director-general

## CBI urges cost-cutting in Budget

By Our Economics Correspondent

Measures to lower business costs and improve competitiveness must take priority over income tax cuts in the Budget, the Confederation of British Industry urges in its recommendations to Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, published yesterday.

It gives a warning that without action on costs and competitiveness economic recovery could start to fizzle out this year, with growth of only 1.5 to 2 per cent compared with 3 per cent in 1983. Given our "weak competitive position", cuts in income tax - beyond raising thresholds to extra compensate for rising prices - would simply suck in imports, it argues.

The employers' organization wants the Chancellor to pursue a "medium-term business strategy" designed to sustain growth at 3 per cent a year. Provided government spending was held in check, this would enable the Chancellor to cut taxes by £2 billion a year in each of his next four budgets and still reduce public borrowing as a proportion of national output, its economists calculate.

The CBI's 1984 Budget package, which would add £1.8 billion to public borrowing in 1984-85 and £2.5 billion in a full year, has three main components:

● A £1.6 billion reduction in business costs through immediate abolition of the employers' national insurance surcharge, the so-called "tax on jobs", and a 10 per cent cut in business rates, now £6 billion a year. The CBI wants this to be followed next year by a reduction in employers' national insurance contributions.

● Measures to boost enterprise and investment "by making share ownership as popular as home ownership" and reducing taxes on investment income.

They include abolition of the investment income surcharge and stamp duty on share deals, ● Higher public investment in essential infrastructure like roads and sewers financed from cuts in government current spending.

## Battle expected after £35m Stylo bid

By Jonathan Clare

Mr Phil Harris, chairman of Harris Queensway, yesterday fired the first formal shots in what is set to be one of the City's most acrimonious takeover battles, when his company said it was offering 325p per share for Stylo, the Bradford shoe business.

The bid comes after last week's announcement by Harris Queensway that it had been rebuffed by the controlling Ziff family after talks about acquiring Stylo.

Yesterday's offer values the shoe business at £35.6m, the price mentioned in the talks, but also offers a premium of 450p each for the unlisted management shares.

The management shares carry 16 votes to every one of the ordinary shares. Mr Harris hopes that the higher offer will be enough to encourage some family members to defect. Without the support of at least one family member it is virtually impossible for Mr Harris to win control.

Both sides yesterday accused the other of stonewalling. Stylo's merchant bank advisers, Lloyds Bank International, said that an invitation made on Friday to put the offer in writing and then talk was never answered.

## Bell bid likely to fail

By Jeremy Warner

Institutional shareholders of Gleneagles Hotels are adopting a "wait and see" approach to the unwanted £21m takeover bid from Arthur Bell & Sons, which is due to reach its first closing date today.

Most of the unquoted Scottish hotel group's 17 shareholders indicated yesterday that they would not be accepting the bid at the present level.

Two of the shareholders with medium-sized stakes, Equity and Law and Scottish Mutual, backed the management's fiercely independent stance and its plans to raise £29.7m with a rights issue to fund the refurbishment of the Piccadilly Hotel.

One of the company's largest shareholders said: "We think there are bound to be further developments whether they be a higher offer from Bell's, or another party entering the fray. The Kuwait Investment Office may bid and we think anyway that the management should be given longer to prove itself."

Gleneagles yesterday issued figures for last year, which showed pretax profits comfortably in excess of the forecast of not less than £1m at £1.2m. This compares with the £83,000 the company made in 1982, its first full year outside British Rail.

The unnamed Japanese company, plans to buy three airships over the next five years.

The first model is due to arrive in Japan in pieces next month.

The unnamed Japanese company, plans to buy three airships over the next five years.

Mr Dunlop said he had no idea how many employees would choose to switch to the new scheme. It would depend on individuals' circumstances. Any new employees BA takes on from now will have no choice but to join the new scheme.

The cost of buying out the index-linked rights could be more than £240m if every member of BA's pension scheme opted to take the cash on offer, but BA does not seem to expect many more than half to take that route.

Mr Dunlop said he had no idea how many employees would choose to switch to the new scheme. It would depend on individuals' circumstances. Any new employees BA takes on from now will have no choice but to join the new scheme.

They decide to do so, they can either take a cash sum equivalent to 85 per cent of their accumulated benefits or opt for a higher final pension by commuting their rights in full into additional years of pensionable service.

As an example, BA said a purser, aged 35, with 10 years' service and a salary of £8,200, could choose to take a cash sum of £4,500 or opt for another five years and eight months of pensionable service. A manager, aged 50, with 20 years' service and a salary of £13,700 could take £9,855 in cash or increase his years of service for the purposes of pension calculation by more than six years.

Mr Dunlop said he had no idea how many employees would choose to switch to the new scheme. It would depend on individuals' circumstances. Any new employees BA takes on from now will have no choice but to join the new scheme.

## Market tops 840

The stock market staged its best one-day performance in more than 14 months yesterday helped by a bumper set of December trade figures and another firm opening on Wall Street.

The FT index leapt 15.6 to a record high of 840.5 as institutional investors chased share prices steadily higher. Datastream calculated that by the close of business last night, £257 billion had been added to share values.

We apologize for the absence of Stock Exchange. Wall Street and unit trust prices because of a strike by members of the union Sogat 82.

## STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 840.5 up 15.6  
FT All Share: 504.18 up 7.52  
Barrington: 27.013  
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 104.21 up 0.74  
New York: Dow Jones Average (latest) 1248 up 5.5  
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,115.10 down 92.18  
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 1,411.68  
Amsterdam: 179.5 up 3.8  
Sydney: AG Index 766.7  
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 107.5 up 9.5  
Brussels: General Index 147.68 up 1.56  
Paris: CAC Index 175.1 down 0.3  
Zurich: SBA General 317.10 up 0.3

While manufacturing output has remained sluggish imports of consumer goods rose by 10.5 per cent and imports of capital goods by 16.4 per cent last year, reaching record levels at the year-end.

Nevertheless the government will be disappointed that Britain's recovery has spurred imports rather than domestic production.

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## CURRENCIES

London Close  
Sterling \$1.4025 up 0.0015  
Index 81.8 up 0.2  
DM 3.86 up 0.0050  
FF 12.09 up 0.0100  
Yen 328.50 unchanged  
Dollar Index 131.8 down 0.2  
DM 2.8210 up 0.0015  
NEW YORK LATEST:  
Sterling \$1.4040  
Dollar DM 2.8160  
INTERNATIONAL  
ECU £0.70774  
SDR £0.737700

Under the project, a 50-50 venture between Westland and Agusta, a potential market is forecast of 2,000 helicopters. About 900 of these will be for the civilian version and the rest divided between the British and Italian navies. A prototype is due to fly by the end of 1986 and regular production to begin in 1989.

Mr Lamont said: "It is a huge project for the U.K. and will help us to secure 10,000 jobs in the aerospace industry at the peak of the programme." Some of these jobs will be in Westland's plant at Yeovil, Somerset, and the others with subcontractors elsewhere.

The EH101 is a medium-heavy three-engined helicopter, with a cruising speed of 160 knots.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Hunt to pay BP \$41m

Mr Nelson Bunker Hunt must pay \$40.8m (£29m) to British Petroleum Exploration, a Dallas federal judge has ruled.

US District Judge Joe A. Fish ruled that the Dallas multimillionaire must obey a British court's order to pay the compensation. The order ended an eight-year legal battle between Mr Hunt and the British oil company over a joint venture at a Libyan oil field that was later nationalized by the Libyan government.

● Nissan's president, Mr Takashi Ishihara said his company is studying the feasibility of building cars in the US. But any move depends on the outcome of the company's prolonged discussions on the possibility of building a plant in Britain.

Mr Ishihara said in Osaka that any move to the US would also have to be discussed with the union. Nissan began producing small trucks for the American market at a plant in Smyrna, Tennessee, last June.

● Unit trust sales last year at £2.459m were more than double the 1982 figure of £1.157m. The 1982 figure was a record. The number of people buying unit trusts has also jumped dramatically with unitholder accounts increasing from 1.8 million to 2.04 million.

● The first two-day round of the rescheduling Poland's 1984 debt obligations opened in London yesterday. Polish finance officials were said to be pressing representatives of 300 western creditor banks to include next year's debts in the package as well.

● BRITAIN has replaced Saudi Arabia as West Germany's largest oil supplier last year.

## Wedd court battle starts

By Wayne Lialott

Within the next week America's biggest investment brokers, Merrill Lynch and the large Wall Street house of Lehman Brothers, Kuhn Loeb will be presenting their evidence supporting a £10.7m law suit against Britain's leading stockjobbers, Wedd, Durlacher, Mordaut.

On January 13, Judge Robert Carter, presiding in the Southern District Court of New York, threw out a move by Wedd to have the suit dismissed.

There now begins an extended legal battle that will take months to settle, and cost millions of dollars to fight.

The action centres on Wedd acting on behalf of a company called C & R Pastor last autumn Pastor sold short on large blocks of blue chip shares through Merrill Lynch and Lehman Brothers but failed to deliver. The American brokers had to buy in the shares suffering a joint loss of £10.7m.

At the same time Pastor brought in large blocks of shares through Wedd - and paid for them - but those shares never reached Merrill or Lehman. Neither Mr Raphael Pastor, chief executive of C & R Pastor, nor the shares, have been seen since.

Details of the new pension proposals were formally given yesterday to the airlines' unions and to the 12 trustees of its pension fund. They are regarded as critical to the success of the airline's planned flotation on the stock market next year.

An adverse ruling by the Inland Revenue however means that the cash offer is not quite as tempting as British Airways had originally hoped to make it. Any employee taking the lump sum will receive the equivalent of 85 per cent only of the pension benefits he has accumulated in his career - not the 100 per cent that British Airways thought would be allowed by the taxmen.

Even so, a handful of the airline's employees stand to receive as much as £40,000 from the deal, which some observers feel could act as a precedent for other state industries on the Government's privatization list.

Mr Gordon Dunlop, BA's finance director, said the airline first began reviewing its pension arrangements two years ago. It would have gone ahead with its plans for a new scheme even if it had not been scheduled for privatization.

"We have to operate in a highly competitive international business", he said. "Index linking commits us to what are theoretically unlimited future pension increases and this is a burden that we felt we could not go on supporting."

## Employees to get only 85% of benefits

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

British Airways' 37,000 employees stand to receive an average tax-free cash sum of £8,000 each if they accept the state-owned airline's pioneering plan to buy out their rights to an index-linked pension.

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Under the proposals, BA's employees are being given the chance to switch to a new unindexed pension scheme which is being set up in April. If

they decide to do so, they can either take a cash sum equivalent to 85 per cent of their accumulated benefits or opt for a higher final pension by commuting their rights in full into additional years of pensionable service.

As an example, BA said a purser, aged 35, with 10 years' service and a salary of £8,200, could choose to take a cash sum of £4,500 or opt for another five years and eight months of pensionable service. A manager, aged 50, with 20 years' service and a salary of £13,700 could take £9,855 in cash or increase his years of service for the purposes of pension calculation by more than six years.

Mr Dunlop said he had no idea how many employees would choose to switch to the new scheme. It would depend on individuals' circumstances. Any new employees BA takes on from now will have no choice but to join the new scheme.

## Japanese order for Airship

A Japanese consortium plans to buy the first of what could be a number of British-made airships, valued at about £1.5m each, from Airship Industries.

The consortium wants the Skyship 500 model, a Helium gas craft capable of carrying 10 passengers. It will initially be used for advertising, but may be used for passenger and charter service, maritime surveillance and military work, depending on the outcome of tests.

The first model is due to arrive in Japan in pieces next month.

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## INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

## Surgery sharpens Gestetner

Drastic surgery looks to have put Gestetner Holdings, the office equipment company, on a much sounder footing, though its American interests remain shaky. The decision to sell Gestetner's own extensive distribution network has been instrumental in turning the 1981-82 pretax loss of £3.1m into a profit of £6.9m.

More links with Japanese manufacturers are due soon. Above the line reorganization costs were just £1.3m, against £4.7m and should be insignificant in the present year.

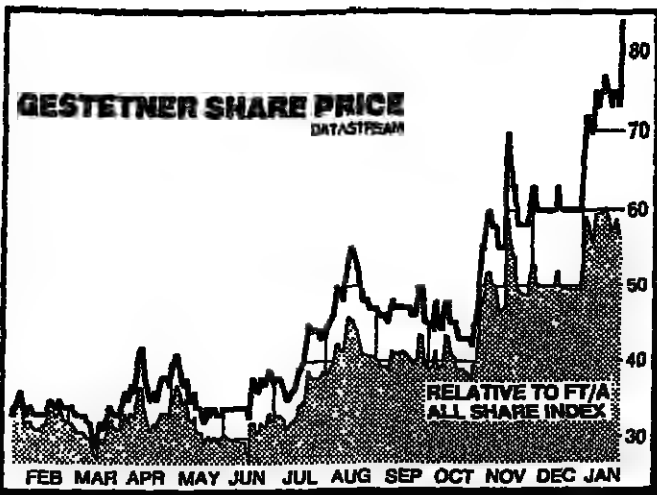
The closure of the loss-making half of the German organization which cost £4.3m is taken below the line. The profitable dealer network there is now free to show what it can really do.

A big question mark hangs over the US business after it turned in a much bigger-than-expected loss of £6.9m. In dollar terms, the US loss doubled from \$3m to \$10m and includes some hefty stock write-offs.

This year will not see the same stock losses, but it will need hard work to make the business profitable by the end of this year, which is the target date.

The US suffered from over-optimistic projections by the local management. Gestetner expects the new management, headed by the former chief executive of the Canadian division, to avoid similar errors.

The attributable loss has fallen from £16.9m to £7.4, but a property revaluation has raised a surplus of £1m, to leave a net increase in shareholders' funds. Total borrowings are up by 15m to £75m, but gearing is little changed though



the company would prefer to see it lower.

The total dividend for the year is unchanged at 1.32. The shares rose 12p to 84p.

## FNFC

Even life after death has its ups and downs. On the surface, last year was a down for First National Finance Corporation, the consumer and property finance group once the vehicle of Mr Pat Matthews, darling of the fringe banking scene, and which has been patiently nursed back from the grave by Mr Stuart Dyer.

Pretax profit for the year to October fell from £15.2m to £11.4m. But the stock market is really only interested in the healthy consumer credit division, which registered a sharp rise from £7.6m to £10.5m. The downturn came mainly from the lending and property division (down from £10.5m to £5.2m).

The consumer finance business is finally free from the stigma of depending on the old bankers' lifeboat for funds. A £160m commercial refinancing last October means the credit business will benefit from relatively lower interest costs this year as well as a £40m expansion of business, worth a conservative £2m together.

The property lending side, still realizing the properties acquired in lieu of customers' loan defaults, remains an irregular profit-earner. It owes the lifeboat about £84m which will be more difficult to refinance.

With shareholders' funds up to £16.6m the group still must sell away another £20m to reconstruct capital and non-distributable reserves before it can pay a dividend.

So the main interest is in FNFC's takeover value. There have been many false rumours, but the most intriguing current plot sees Royal Bank of

Scotland selling its share of Lloyds & Scottish to Lloyds using the proceeds to buy FNFC as the basis of a new consumer credit division.

After slipping to 66½p yesterday, (against nominal earnings down from 12.5p to 9.8p), FNFC is valued at about £85m and well worth it in such a deal. But there must already be a lot of disappointed speculators.

## Union Discount

Union Discount's disclosed profits may have fallen to £6.1m from £11.4m, but the house's ability to increase inner reserves while transferring £9m from them points to a strong underlying position. In the event, the profit carried forward was some £700,000 higher at £3.65m.

Nevertheless, last year was difficult. Despite the decline in minimum lending rate over the year, each fall was too small and too long drawn out for significant profits to be made. The narrowing of spreads, especially during the periods in which the market smelt an impending rate cut, was one of the reasons for Union's total current assets ending the year at £1,747m compared with £2,198m.

Much of the increase in Inner Reserves stemmed from a jump from £18m to £45.5m in the leasing portfolio. The structure of assets also changed as holdings of commercial bills fell by £170m while the contingent liability on bills was £478m higher, reflecting the amount sold to the Bank. The final dividend has been raised by 3p to 20p, bringing the years total to 34p net, where on last night's share price of 76½p, up 5p, the yield is comfortably over 6 per cent.

## Trusthouse Forte sells last travel business

Trusthouse Forte, Britain's biggest hotel group, yesterday announced the sale of Milbank Travel, its last travel business, as part of the group's strategy of concentrating on its core hotel and catering activities.

No price was disclosed, although travel industry sources suggest that the deal could net THF at least £200,000.

Last year the group sold Swan Helenic Cruises to P & O for about £250,000. THF's leisure division, which included the Blackpool Tower and the Empire Ballroom in Leicester Square, London, was also sold for £37.5m to a new company headed by Lord Delfont.

Milbank owns a chain of retail travel agencies in London and the South-East and has specialized in providing business travel packages.

THF agreed the sale of Milbank to St. Margaret Investment, a little known investment group, after discussions involving at least two other companies.

## Park Food

Park Food Group, the hamper business which came to the USM in July, yesterday reported its expected loss for the half year to end September.

The deficit is £1.4m compared with a £1.06 loss in the same period last year. The chairman, Mr Peter Sherlock, says a record number of hampers were sold in the pre-Christmas period and year's profits should exceed last time's £1.2m.

Park Food's shares were offered at a minimum 85p tender price. Striking level was 95p. Yesterday they lost 1p to 85p.

## Oil shares bubble as BP joins calls for stability

Oil shares bubbled into life yesterday as the heads of several of Britain's largest oil explorers joined together with Opec to call for world price stability.

Sir Peter Walters, chairman of BP, told members of the Energy Business conference in London that oil producing countries and the world economy would benefit from an orderly world market than the present free-for-all. He said: "The prescription for 1984 for Opec countries is world oil price stability. And for BP it's more of the same."

BP, which with Shell, will announce full year profits in March which are expected to be well above analysts' expectations, has now recovered from

month, but P&O stood out among the constituents with a loss of 1p to 259p.

Once again the appearance of US investors after hours only served to turn the screw on the jobbers now anxiously short of stock among those stocks with a transatlantic flavour.

Gulfs remained overshadowed, despite the trade figures, with losses of up to 25p reported by dealers at the longer end in the trade. A £12m Rochdale Metropolitan Council loan, a 1981 "droplock", was placed with institutional shareholders at par. It carries an 11.10 per cent coupon until 2006. Dealings are expected to start on Monday.

The big high street clearing banks also shook off the gloom that surrounded them earlier in the week as investors took a fresh look at the sector in the run up to next month's dividend season.

The Bank of Scotland rose 3p to 629p, Barclays 5p to 562p, Lloyds Bank 20p to 599p, Midland 1p to 424p and National Westminster 30p to 76p. Only Royal Bank of Scotland resisted the trend slipping 1p to 214p, after 216p amid reports that a large line of stock had appeared on the scene.

The discount housed encountered profit taking after the recent bout of speculative support following the mystery approach for Gerrard & National which held steady at 337p. Falls were seen in Jess & Jones 1p to 85p, King Shaxson 1p to 125p, Smith & Aubyn 2p to 54p and Clive Discount 1p to 53p. Standing out against the rest, Alexanders Discount added 2p to 409p and Union Discount rose 5p to 763p.

Composite insurance shares joined the upward trend, but failed to hold their best levels. Commercial Union rose 4p to 195p, General Accident 3p to 468p, Guardian Royal 7p to 533p, Minister Assets 7p to 125p, Phoenix Assurance 4p to 440p and Sun Alliance 75p to £154. Royal Insurance closed all square at 528p.

The pot of gold waiting for newspaper publishers at the end of the Reuter's rainbow continued to attract support. Associated Newspapers, owner of the Daily Mail and Mail on Sunday, stood out with a rise of 17p to 483p, while the Daily Mail Trust ordinary and "A" added 3p a piece at 880p. East Midland and Allied Press "A" firmed 2p to 85p. Fleet Holdings, where Mr Robert Holmes' Court's ACC has just increased its stake to 8.1 per cent, added another 3p to 179p. International Thomson rose 10p to 815p and United Newspapers was wanted 10p better at 330p.

Others to gain ground included BP 9p up at 435p, British Borneo 9p at 300p, Britoil 3p at 236p, Burnmah 12p at 200p, Careless Capel 10p at 233p, Charterhouse Petroleum 12p at 149p, Goal Petroleum 8p at 106p, Imperial Continental Gas 17p at 293p, KCA Drilling 4p at 32p, Lasmo 12p at 343p, Premier Consolidated 6½p at 60p, Tricentrol 7p at 210p, Ultramar 27p at 689p.

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A bumper set of December trade figures combined with another firm opening on Wall Street to enable the stock market to resume its record-breaking run.

The equity market had its best one-day rise in more than 14 months as the FT index soared 15.6 to a record 840.5. This added more than 12.57 billion to share values at £171.56 billion according to Datastream. Double figure gains were reported among most blue chips as institutional investors decided to throw caution to the wind and chase share prices sharply higher.

Allied-Lyons rose 3p to 153p, BICC 6p to 276p, BTR 3p to 434p, Beecham 4p to 320p, Blue Circle 3p to 441p, BOC Group 2p to 299p, Bowater 10p to 299p, Courtaulds 6p to 141p, Distillers 3p to 265p, GKN 4p to 207p, Glavo 8p to 795p, Grand Metropolitan 22p to 363p, ICI 2p to 634p, Marks & Spencer 3p to 230p, Plessey 8p to 334p, Tate & Lyle 5p to 415p, Thorn ENI 8p to 659p, TI Group 4p to 202p, Transhouse Forte 3p to 215p, following an acquisition, and Vickers 9p to 145p.

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The equity market had its best one-day rise in more than 14 months as the FT index soared 15.6 to a record 840.5. This added more than 12.57 billion to share values at £171.56 billion according to Datastream. Double figure gains were reported among most blue chips as institutional investors decided to throw caution to the wind and chase share prices sharply higher.

Allied-Lyons rose 3p to 153p, BICC 6p to 276p, BTR 3p to 434p, Beecham 4p to 320p, Blue Circle 3p to 441p, BOC Group 2p to 299p, Bowater 10p to 299p, Courtaulds 6p to 141p, Distillers 3p to 265p, GKN 4p to 207p, Glavo 8p to 795p, Grand Metropolitan 22p to 363p, ICI 2p to 634p, Marks & Spencer 3p to 230p, Plessey 8p to 334p, Tate & Lyle 5p to 415p, Thorn ENI 8p to 659p, TI Group 4p to 202p, Transhouse Forte 3p to 215p, following an acquisition, and Vickers 9p to 145p.

Imperial Group hardened 8p to 156p ahead of figures next

month, but P&O stood out among the constituents with a loss of 1p to 259p.

Once again the appearance of US investors after hours only served to turn the screw on the jobbers now anxiously short of stock among those stocks with a transatlantic flavour.

Gulfs remained overshadowed, despite the trade figures, with losses of up to 25p reported by dealers at the longer end in the trade. A £12m Rochdale Metropolitan Council loan, a 1981 "droplock", was placed with institutional shareholders at par. It carries an 11.10 per cent coupon until 2006. Dealings are expected to start on Monday.

The big high street clearing banks also shook off the gloom that surrounded them earlier in the week as investors took a fresh look at the sector in the run up to next month's dividend season.

The Bank of Scotland rose 3p to 629p, Barclays 5p to 562p, Lloyds Bank 20p to 599p, Midland 1p to 424p and National Westminster 30p to 76p. Only Royal Bank of Scotland resisted the trend slipping 1p to 214p, after 216p amid reports that a large line of stock had appeared on the scene.

The discount housed encountered profit taking after the recent bout of speculative support following the mystery approach for Gerrard & National which held steady at 337p. Falls were seen in Jess & Jones 1p to 85p, King Shaxson 1p to 125p, Smith & Aubyn 2p to 54p and Clive Discount 1p to 53p. Standing out against the rest, Alexanders Discount added 2p to 409p and Union Discount rose 5p to 763p.

Composite insurance shares joined the upward trend, but failed to hold their best levels. Commercial Union rose 4p to 195p, General Accident 3p to 468p, Guardian Royal 7p to 533p, Minister Assets 7p to 125p, Phoenix Assurance 4p to 440p and Sun Alliance 75p to £154. Royal Insurance closed all square at 528p.

The pot of gold waiting for newspaper publishers at the end of the Reuter's rainbow continued to attract support. Associated Newspapers, owner of the Daily Mail and Mail on Sunday, stood out with a rise of 17p to 483p, while the Daily Mail Trust ordinary and "A" added 3p a piece at 880p. East Midland and Allied Press "A" firmed 2p to 85p. Fleet Holdings, where Mr Robert Holmes' Court's ACC has just increased its stake to 8.1 per cent, added another 3p to 179p. International Thomson rose 10p to 815p and United Newspapers was wanted 10p better at 330p.

Others to gain ground included BP 9p up at 435p, British Borneo 9p at 300p, Britoil 3p at 236p, Burnmah 12p at 200p, Careless Capel 10p at 233p, Charterhouse Petroleum 12p at 149p, Goal Petroleum 8p at 106p, Imperial Continental Gas 17p at 293p, KCA Drilling 4p at 32p, Lasmo 12p at 343p, Premier Consolidated 6½p at 60p, Tricentrol 7p at 210p, Ultramar 27p at 689p.

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# MORE LIVE CONTACTS. FEWER DEAD ENDS.

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## Intervision in leasing link with CBS/Fox

Intervision, the video cassette distributors with a USM share presence, has forged a 15-year leasing link with CBS/Fox, the American entertainment group.

Through its British offshoot, CBS/Fox is acquiring a half share in two Intervision leasing companies set up nine months ago.

The Intervision operations lease video cassettes to garages and off-licences, which then rent them to viewers.

Intervision-CBS/Fox intends to cover all available world markets with the exception of the US and Canada. The partnership hopes to make a deal with an international oil group to sell through its Australian garage chain. West Germany is another market which features in its early plans.

Intervision is the first video leaser to form a joint company with a big Hollywood group. Yesterday its shares, strong lately, fell 2p to 32p.

## In brief

● **Bootham Engineers:** Dividend 3p (6p) for year to October 31, 1983. Group turnover £7.859 (£7,819,716). Pretax profit £25,542 (£106,387). Extraordinary dividend - cost of closure of a factory and related redundancies £29,614 (nil). Leaving group profit attributable to shareholders £14,676 (£116,918). EPS 4.25p (11.25p). Shares 100 down 2.5p.

● **M J Gleeson Group:** At the annual meeting yesterday, the chairman, Mr J P Gleeson, said that turnover for 1983-1984 should be at the same level as attained in 1982-1983 and there was a possibility of an improved trading margin, despite pressures on the construction industry at home, when the Nigerian contract was completed.

● **KLP Group:** Results for the year to September 30, 1983. Dividend 1.6p for year (nil). Dividend by directors have reduced cost of dividend by 77 per cent. Figures in £000. Turnover 3,800 (£2,231). Pretax profit 548 (£408). Tax 283 (£227). Minorities nil (2) EPS 6.76p (£4.67p).

● **McLeod Russel:** First interim statement on an 18-month period to September 30, 1984. Interim dividend 3.5p.

In the UK, the company's paint manufacturing business is trading above the level of the previous year in volume and profit terms.

Arthur Edge, the company's drop forging business, is trading profitably at a higher level than last year, although it continues to experience stiff competition.

● **Elders:** Elders has acquired 22 million ordinary in Goodman Group, a leading New Zealand public company, with a market capitalization of NZ\$530m. This investment of approximately 20 per cent of the issued capital offers Elders the opportunity to become more closely involved in New Zealand and in the increasing economic activity between the two countries.

● **Alfred Walker:** Results for full year to October 31, 1983. The board forecast for the year to April 30, 1984. A dividend of not less than 0.75p for each share currently in issue. Figures in £000. Group turnover 457 (354). Pretax profit 30 (30). After interest. No tax (same). EPS 1.71p (1.71p). Shares unchanged at 73.

● **DPCE Holdings:** Half year to December 31, 1983. Interim dividend 0.7p. Figures in £000. Revenue 3,404 (£2,486). Loan stock interest 4 (60). Pretax profit 818 (£459). Tax 268 (£140). Attributable to members 550 (319). EPS 4.7p.

● **Lookers:** garage group, is proposing a 1-for-10 scrip issue. A final dividend of 2.6p on increased capital will be paid making 4p (3.85) for the year to September 30.

Pretax profits for the year were £1.4 against £873,000 on turnover up from £86.5m to £134.7m. A tax charge of £205,000 compared with a credit of £226,000.

Extraordinary debits were £227,000. Earnings per share have increased from 14.8p to 16.2p.

# GLEESON

**Civil Engineering & Building Contractors**  
The Annual General Meeting of M J Gleeson Group plc was held on January 25th at North Chesham, Surrey.

**Salient points from Mr. J. P. Gleeson's Statement:**  
Turnover has increased both in the United Kingdom and Overseas. Recent events have not disrupted the good progress which has been made on the important civil engineering contract in Nigeria.

Of the record pre-tax profit of £3.1m, £800,000 is derived from rental income. The total dividend for the year is 4.50p per share, an increase of 18.4%.

Present indications are that turnover in the current year will be similar to that achieved in 1982/83 and trading margins may improve when the Nigerian contract is completed. Non-trading sources of income should be maintained and another good year is in prospect for our residential estate development department.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, M J Gleeson Group plc, Hareton House, London Road, North Chesham, Surrey SM3 9BS.

# Old Lady shows the financial world an acceptable face of supervision

As the debate about investor protection grows, John Cooper studies how the Bank of England tackled the role of banks' referee

The question of the protection of investors and depositors - and the wider issue of how financial markets and institutions should be regulated - has been thrown into the headlines once again by three events.

First, came the news on January 13 that the New Cross Building Society was to be merged with the much larger Woolwich Equitable Building Society, after orders made by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies effectively withdrawing the New Cross' designation of "trustee status" and denying it the right to accept further investments.

Secondly, Part 1 of Professor Lawrence Gowers Review of Investor Protection was published on January 18. It made wide-ranging proposals for the regulation of the institutions and markets concerned with investment.

And thirdly, there has been a spate of announcements of deals, effected and still in prospect, for banks and other financial institutions domestic and overseas, to buy into existing London Stock Exchange firms and other financial institutions, thereby heralding a re-drawing of the City institutional map and provoking a keen debate on whether the authorities should step in to influence the map's shape and how, eventually, the new, sometimes conglomerate, institutions which emerge should be regulated.

As a background to the public debate on these matters, it is worth recalling that the banking community, as distinct from the investment community and the building societies, has recently experienced some radical changes in the manner in which it is supervised and the legal framework in which that supervision is undertaken. The banking community, with one or two minor exceptions, has learnt to live comfortably with the new style and the new framework.

The basis of the new system of supervision is the Banking Act 1979. In the words of Mr John Florde, an adviser to the Governor of the Bank of England: "The central provision of this comprehensive legislation is a general prohibition on the acceptance of deposits without specific authorization of the Bank of England."

"The Act contains certain broadly drawn prudential criteria relating to the integrity of management, the adequacy of capital and liquidity and the prudent conduct of the business against which the Bank as supervisory authority, may grant deposit-taking authority."

"But it leaves a wider measure of discretion to the Bank on the interpretation and application to individual deposit-taking companies of the criteria for initial and continuing authorization."

"So the Bank turned its attention to the central supervisory issues of the measurement and assessment of liquidity, capital adequacy and foreign currency exposure. This comprehensive overhaul of the techniques of banking supervision aimed to take account of the much greater variety of financial instruments in bank balance sheets and the increased variability in their value."

In setting about this task of overhauling the techniques of banking supervision, the Bank of England, in an address in November, 1982. He said: "It is judgments about management which are at the heart of our supervisory process - not only from the evidence of the balance sheet and the profit performance but from face-to-face discussions with senior banking community and set out clearly in a paper published by the Bank in April, 1981. But while the Bank's paper is clear as to how to assess the foreign currency exposure of a bank, it is scrupulously silent on the specific maximum prudent level of exposure for any one bank."

In the words of the 1981 paper: "The Bank will not set any formal limits on the size of a bank's foreign currency positions, but will agree dealing position guidelines with each institution individually. These will take account of the institution's particular circumstances and expertise". A similar, individual, approach is explicit in the Bank's papers on Capital Adequacy and The Measurement of Liquidity.

The Bank's approach to supervision was clearly set out by Mr Peter Cooke, the Head of Banking Supervision at the Bank, in an address in November, 1982. He said: "It is judgments about management which are at the heart of our supervisory process - not only from the evidence of the balance sheet and the profit performance but from face-to-face discussions with senior banking community and set out clearly in a paper published by the Bank in April, 1981. But while the Bank's paper is clear as to how to assess the foreign currency exposure of a bank, it is scrupulously silent on the specific maximum prudent level of exposure for any one bank."

The large increase in turnover reflects the inclusion of Braid Group activities for a full year compared with only two months last year. Profits from the motor dealerships increased despite fierce competition. In the parts department, the company benefited particularly from the increase efficiency and sales arising from the success of the computerization programme.

Profits from leasing and contract hire activities have reached a record high level and should continue to do well despite falling-used car prices.

● **Stakis:** Chairman, Reo Stakis, says in his annual statement: "Last January's rights issue has given the group renewed financial strength and the revaluation of our properties will show that our gearing levels are even lower than those indicated in these accounts. This sound financial platform gives your board additional confidence in its plans to expand all the activities of the group."

"We have made a most promising start to 1983/84 with all divisions trading ahead of last year. I look to the future with confidence and trust that these initial results presage another record year in 1983/84."

● **Whittings:** results for the year to September 30, 1983. Figures in (£000). Final dividend 1.75p making 3p (2.5p). Turnover 25,031 (£23,880). Group pretax profit 707 (£693). Tax 52 (£43). EPS 16.38p (£16.25p). CCA profit before tax 616 (£618) shares 77p, up 1p.

## Bankers have learnt to live comfortably with the new framework

prospect, for banks and other financial institutions domestic and overseas, to buy into existing London Stock Exchange firms and other financial institutions, thereby heralding a re-drawing of the City institutional map and provoking a keen debate on whether the authorities should step in to influence the map's shape and how, eventually, the new, sometimes conglomerate, institutions which emerge should be regulated.

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management of all supervised institutions.

"The Bank's system is designed to enable the supervisor to sit alongside management, sharing in his thinking. Although we have no wish to be directly involved in management we certainly regard it as of crucial importance to have a good understanding of the thrust of management in a business."

But it should never be forgotten who has the last say in this style of supervision. As Mr Cooke put it: "I should make it clear... that, notwithstanding this emphasis, and in my view very proper emphasis, which we put on flexibility and letting management manage, there will always be a point at which the supervisor must be the final arbiter. Hopefully, this only arises infrequently and when there is no alternative."

"It is also important that the arbiter's ruling should be readily accepted. That is why the Bank as an institution has always set out to be closely involved in the market."

"The professionals must be prepared to accept the referee's decision. There will always be

some aspects of supervision where there can be no absolute or objective basis for applying judgment. Capital adequacy is perhaps the most obvious example. In this area, particularly, there will be occasions when the supervisor has to say "You may go no further."

As already noted, this system of regulation has gained the respect and acquiescence of the great majority of the banking community. But it would be naive to try to draw too many lessons from it for the current debate on the protection of investors and of depositors with building societies.

The main worries of most of the investment community about Professor Gower's proposals for a new Investor Protection Act are probably based on a fear that a heavy dirigiste hand from Whitehall will stifle the initiatives, business and prosperity of the investment community.

Indeed, Professor Gower himself concedes in his Review the point that "inevitably there is a tension between market efficiency and investor protection which often pull in different directions", though he remarks that he sees no

evidence that the degree of regulation he is proposing itself impairs market efficiency.

These same worries were felt - and voiced - most keenly within the banking community when the Banking Act was under active discussion.

For the time being, such worries have been allayed. But the banking community is frighteningly aware that this is simply due to the manner in which the Bank of England exercises its supervisory authority.

Perhaps the clearest lesson to be drawn is that the acceptability, by the supervised, of banking supervision in the cause of deposit protection depends crucially on the goodwill, flexibility and practicality of the supervisors themselves.

Other financial institutions facing the prospect of similar supervision in the cause of investor protection may well reflect on this lesson when commenting on Professor Gower's proposed roles for the Department of Trade, the Council for the Securities Industry and recognized self-regulatory agencies.

The author, a merchant banker, is a director of Singer & Friedlander. The issues of bank supervision are more fully discussed in his book *The Management and Regulation of Banks*, published by Macmillan today.

## Charles Barker sets market launch date

By Derek Pain

Charles Barker, Britain's oldest advertising agency, intends to bring its shares to the stock market in 1986, the chairman, Mr Antony Snow, said yesterday.

He was speaking after the first meeting of the reshaped Charles Barker board. The Barker decision to wait until 1986 - when its 1985 results will be available - is, apparently, against the wishes of the group's financial advisers who suggested an earlier flotation.

Mr Snow became chairman last June after Mr Julian Wellesley was ousted.

He and his colleagues take the view that the company will be in a much stronger position to obtain the best possible share rating if it hangs on for a few years and in the meantime sharply improves its profits.

The company will almost certainly seek a full listing. Yesterday it was announced that two former Charles Barker men, Mr Reg Valin and Mr Richard Pollen, were bringing their agency, Valin Pollen, to the USM.

Messrs Valin and Pollen established their company in 1979. Turnover is £8,250,000 and profits £275,000.

Charles Barker achieved pretax profits of £857,000 for 1982 and expects to have topped £1m last year. It is Britain's sixth largest agency with billings of £98m last year.

About 60 per cent of its shares are owned by City institutions. Staff own 30 per cent and America's oldest advertising agency, N W Ayer, has a 10 per cent shareholding.

## Bassett soars after bid

By Jeremy Warner

The shares of Bassett Foods, the liqueurice allsorts confectionery company, rose on the stock market yesterday after the news of the £17.3m takeover bid from Avana Group.

The 2-for-7 share swap terms that Avana, the fast-growing Cardiff-based Marks & Spencer food supplier, is offering were formally condemned by Bassett's chief executive, Mr Harold Stokes as "unacceptable, unsolicited and unwelcome."

The terms values each Bassett share at 144p. On the stock market the shares soared 67p in

first dealings to 166p in anticipation of a long takeover battle.

Avana's managing director, Dr John Randall, said: "We had hoped that after due consideration with its financial advisor, S G Warburg, Bassett would have been able to recommend the bid but obviously this is not to be."

Bassett has experienced several years of troubled trading, but in the half year to the end of last October its profits showed a big improvement.

## NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

of

# Ente Nazionale per l'Energia Elettrica-ENEL

(Italian National Electric Energy Agency)

7½ Per Cent. 15-Year Guaranteed Bonds of 1970

Due March 1, 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, on behalf of Ente Nazionale per l'Energia Elettrica-ENEL, that on March 1, 1984, \$3,000,000 principal amount of its 7½ Per Cent. 15-Year Guaranteed Bonds of 1970 will be redeemed out of moneys to be paid by it to Dillon, Read & Co. Inc., as Principal Paying Agent, pursuant to the mandatory, annual redemption requirement of said Bonds and to the related Authenticating Agency Agreement and Paying Agency Agreement, each dated as of March 1, 1970. The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), as Authenticating Agent, has selected, by lot, for each redemption the Bonds bearing the following serial numbers:

## BONDS SELECTED FOR REDEMPTION

13	1654	3524	5598	7245	8070	10700	12273	13709	15208	16890	18735	20555	22564	24444	26363	27908	29701	31663	33728	35451	37007	38623	40134	41949	43905	45843	48483
17	1855	3540	5608	7278	8987	10753	12284	13806	15312	16878	18472	20044	21658	23244	24861	26500	28174	29874	31619	33338	35042	36732	38416	40104	41796	43491	45188
21	1980	3555	5610	7288	8997	10764	12295	13817	15323	16889	18483	20055	21669	23255	24872	26511	28185	29885	31630	33349	35053	36743	38427	40119	41814	43511	45210
25	2081	3560	5615	7293	9002	10769	12300	13822	15328	16894	18488	20060	21674	23260	24877	26516	28190	29890	31635	33354	35058	36748	38432	40124	41819	43516	45215
29	2182	3565	5620	7303	9007	10774	12305	13827	15331	16897	18491	20065	21679	23265	24882	26521	28195	29895	31640	33359	35063	36753	38437	40129	41824	43521	45220
33	2283	3570	5625	7313	9012	10779	12310	13832	15336	16902	18496	20070	21684	23270	24887	26526	28198	29898	31645	33364	35068	36758	38442	40134	41829	43526	45225
37	2384	3575	5630	7323	9017	10784	12315	13837	15341	16907	18498	20075	21689	23275	24892	26531	28198	29898	31650	33369	35073	36763	38447	40139	41834	43531	45230
41	2485	3580	5635	7333	9022	10789	12320	13842	15346	16912	18501	20080	21694	23280	24897	26536	28203	29903	31655	33374	35078	36768	38452	40144	41839	43536	45235
45	2586	3585	5640	7343	9027	10794	12325	13847	15351	16917	18506	20085	21699	23285	24902	26541	28208	29908	31660	33379	35083	36773	38457	40149	41844	43541	45240
49	2687	3590	5645	7353	9032	10799	12330	13852	15356	16922	18511	20090	21704	23290	24907	26546	28213	29913	31665	33384	35088	36778	38462	40154	41849	43546	45245
53	2788	3595	5650	7363	9037	10804	12335	13857	15361	16927	18516	20095	21709	23295	24912	26551	28218	29918	31670	33389	35093	36783	38467	40159	41854	43551	45250
57	2889	3600	5655	7373	9042	10809	12340	13862	15366	16932	18521	20100	21714	23300	24917	26556	28223	29923	31675	33394	35098	36788	38472	40164	41859	43556	45255
61	2990	3605	5660	7383	9047	10814	12345	13867	15371	16937	18526	20105	21719	23305	24922	26561	28228	29928	31680	33399	35103	36793	38477	40169	41864	43561	45260
65	3091	3610	5665	7393	9052	10819	12350	13872	15376	16942	18531	20110	21724	23310	24927	26566	28233	29933	31685	33404	35108	36798	38482	40174	41869	43566	45265
69	3192	3615	5670	7403	9057	10824	12355	13877	15381	16947	18536	20115	21729	23315	24932	26571	28238	29938	31690	33409	35113	36803	38487	40179	41874	43571	45270
73	3293	3620	5675	7413	9062	10829	12360	13882	15386	16952	18541	20120	21734	23320	24937	26576	28243	29943	31695	33414	35118	36808	38492	40184	41879	43576	45275
77	3394	3625	5680	7423	9067	10834	12365	13887	15391	16957	18546	20125	21739	23325	24942	26581	28248	29948	31700	33419	35123	36813	38497	40189	41884	43581	45280
81	3495	3630	5685	7433	9072	10839	12370	13892	15396	16962	18551	20130	21744	23330	24947	26586	28253	29953	31705	33424	35128	36818	38502	40194	41889	43586	45285
85	3596	3635	5690	7443	9077	10844	12375	13897	15401	16967	18556	20135	21749	23335	24952	26591	28258	29958	31710	33429	35133	36823	38507	40200	41894	43591	45290
89	3697	3640	5695	7453	9082	10849	12380	13902	15406	16972	18561	20140	21754	23340	24957	26596	28263	29963	31715	33434	35138	36828	38512	40205	41899	43596	45295
93	3798	3645	5700	7463	9087	10854	12385	13907	15411	16977	18566	20145	21759	23345	24962	26601	28268	29968	31720	33439	35143	36833	38517	40210	41904	43601	45300
97	3899	3650	5705	7473	9092	10859	12390	13912	15416	16982	18571	20150	21764	23350	24967	26606	28273	29973	31725	33444	35148	36838	38522	40215	41909	43606	45305
101	3900	3655	5710	7483	9097	10864	12395	13917	15421	16987	18576	20155	21769	23355	24972	26611	28278	29978	31730	33449	35153	36843	38527	40220	41914	43611	45310
105	4001	3660	5715	7493	9102	10869	12400	13922	15426	16992	18581	20160	21774	23360	24977	26616	28283	29983	31735	33454	35158	36848	38532	40225	41919	43616	45315
109	4102	3665	5720	7503	9107	10874	12405	13927	15431	17000	18586	20165	21779	23365	24982	26621	28288	29988	31740	33459	35163	36853	38537	40230	41924	43621	45320
113	4203	3670	5725	7513	9112	10879	12410	13932	15436	17005	18591	20170	21784	23370	24987	26626	28293	29993	31745	33464	35168	36858	38542	40235	41929	43626	45325
117	4304	3675	5730	7523	9117	10884	12415	13937	15441	17010	18596	20175	21789	23375	24992	26631	28298	30000	31750	33469	35173	36863	38547	40240	41934	43631	45330
121	4405	3680	5735	7533	9122	10889	12420	13942	15446	17015	18601	20180	21794	23380	24997	26636	28303	30005	31755	33474	35178	36868	38552	40245	41939	43636	45335
125	4506	3685	5740	7543	9127	10894	12425	13947	15451	17020	18606	20185	21799	23385	25002	26641	28308	30010	31760	33479	35183	36873	38557	40250	41944	43641	45340
129	4607	3690	5745	7553	9132	10899	12430	13952	15456	17025	18611	20190	21804	23390	25007	26646	28313	30015	31765	33484	35188	36878	38562	40255	41949	43646	45345
133	4708	3695	5750	7563	9137	10904	12435	13957	15461	17030	18616	20195	21809	23395	25012	26651	28318	30020	31770	33489	35193	36883	38567	40260	41954	43651	45350
137	4809	3700	5755	7573	9142	10909	12440	13962	15466	17035	18621	20200	21814	23400	25017	26656	28323	30025	31775	33494	35198	36888	38572	40265	41959	43656	45355
141	4910	3705	5760	7583	9147	10914	12445	13967	15471	17040	18626	20205	21819	23405	25022	26661	28328	30030	31780	33499	35203	36893	38577	40270	41964	43661	45360
145	5011	3710	5765	7593	9152	10919	12450	13972	15476	17045	18631	20210	21824	23410	25027	26666	28333	30035	31785	33504	35208	36898	38582	40275	41969	43666	45365
149	5112	3715	5770	7603	9157	10924	12455	13977	15481	17050	18636	20215	21829	23415	25032	26671	28338	30040	31790	33509	35213	36903	38587	40280	41974	43671	45370
153	5213	3720	5775	7613	9162	10929	12460	13982	15486	17055	18641	20220	21834	23420	25037	26676	28343	30045	31795	33514	35218	36908	38592	40285	41979	43676	45375
157	5314	3725	5780	7623	9167	10934	12465	13987	15491	17060	18646	20225	21839	23425	25042	26681	28348	30050	31800	33519	35223	36913	38597	40290	41984	43681	45380
161	5415	3730	5785	7633	9172	10939	12470	13992	15496	17065	18651	20230	21844	23430	25047	26686	28353	30055	31805	33524	35228	36918	38602	40295	41989	43686	45385
165	5516	3735	5790	7643	9177	10944	12475	14000	15501	17070	18656	20235	21849	23435	25052	26691	28358	30060	31810	33529	35233	36923	38607	40300	41994	43691	45390
169	5617	3740	5795	7653	9182	10949	12480	14005	15506	17075	18661	20240	21854	23440	25057	26696	28363	30065	31815	33534	35238	36928	38612	40305	42000	43696	45395
173	5718	3745	5800	7663	9187	10954	12485	14010	15511	17080	18666	20245	21859	23445	25062	26701	28368	30070	31820	33539	35243	36933	38617	40310	42005	43701	45400
177	5819	3750	5805	7673	9192	10959	12490	14015	15516	17085	18671	20250	21864	23450	25067	26706	28373	30075	31825	33544	35248	36938	38622	40315	42010	43706	45405
181	5920	3755	5810	7683	9197	10964	12495	14020	15521	17090	18676	20255	21869	23455	25072	26711	28378	30080	31830	33549	35253	36943	38627	40320	42015	43711	45410
185	6021	3760	5815	7693	9202	10969	12500	14025	15526	17095	18681	20260	21874	23460	25077	26716	28383	30085	31835	33554	35258	36948	38632	40325	42020	43716	45415
189	6122	3765	5820	7703	9207	10974	12505	14030	15531	17100	18686	20265	21879	23465	25082	26721	28388	30090	31840	33559	35263						











## CRICKET: WILLIS AND BOTHAM STAND DOWN

## Gower takes on Illingworth over, bawled out at 51

From Derek Hodgson, Dinedel

It was confirmed on arrival here yesterday that Ian Botham will not be playing in the three-day match against Otago starting tomorrow, although his Test match injury has complicated what was originally granted as a straight forward leave of absence.

Botham and Willis, his captain, are both standing down. As Botham is having treatment on a pulled hamstring and a swollen tendon behind the left knee, he would not have been fit to play anyway, although Bernard Thomas, England's physiotherapist, is satisfied that the all-rounder will be ready for the second Test match starting in Christchurch tomorrow week.

As to a carriage operation, to which I referred yesterday, Mr Thomas is also hoping that Botham will avoid that, although he concedes that the strain placed on 28-year-old knees that are playing cricket and soccer each and every year always make it a possibility. It is the twisting and turning of the knee joints that make soccer players so vulnerable. "Eventually," I was told, "Ian will need a carriage taking out."

The England party did not need the proximity of Burns Night to be reminded that they were in the Scotland of the South Seas: green hills, distant mountains, the Robbie Burns liquor store and a sudden rise in taxi-cab fares. But here, as in Scotland, hospitality abounds.

Foster and Randall also seem likely to be rested which means that Gower will lead a team reading: Tavaré, Smith, Fowler, Gower, Lamb, Gatting, Marks, Dilley, Taylor, Cook and Cowans.

Otago are having their Carisbrook ground relaid so this match is to be played on the

University Oval where the pitch is as much a mystery as that of the recently vacated Basin Reserve. Otago's best known players are W K Lees, the wicket-keeper and captain, and S L Boock, the left-arm spin bowler.

Challenger to Martin Crowe's place as New Zealand's second youngest test century-maker has arisen in J W Guy, currently a selector. Guy was 21 and two months when he scored 102 against India in Hyderabad in 1955. Martin is 21 years 19 months. H C Vivian, 19 years 121 days, who scored 100 against South Africa in 1932, remains the youngest.

## Hadlee delivers another bouncer

Wellington (Reuter) - Richard Hadlee, the New Zealand player at the centre of the controversy over bouncers during the first Test, said yesterday that it was a case of "an eye for an eye".

Hadlee, who was criticized by Geoff Howarth, the New Zealand captain, for bowling too many bouncers, said in a newspaper article: "Newcomer Neil Foster, playing in just his second Test, opened hostilities by peppering me with legside bouncers in New Zealand's first innings. Naturally enough I returned the compliment." Hadlee said.

He also sent down a couple to Bob Willis, justified Hadlee said, because Willis had let one go at Ewen Chatfield, the No 11 batsman.

"To me, and I had support from the team, it was a case of an eye for an eye. If England were going to let rip at New Zealand, then it was up to me to make sure they copped a few back."

## Illingworth over, bawled out at 51

Ray Illingworth has ended a playing career with Yorkshire which began 33 years ago. The former England captain said yesterday that he is not prepared to put up any longer with the shouting and bawling which he had to endure last season from certain sections of the crowd. The 51-year-old off-spinner, who last summer led Yorkshire to the John Player League trophy, will continue as team manager for the time being.

Illingworth explained: "I did say at the end of last season that I would be prepared to play in some one-day matches if necessary. But after talking the matter over with my wife and family I have decided to call it a day."

Even though I am now 51, I still topped the national bowling averages in one-day matches last season and I feel I could do well again, but I'm not going to take any more stick."

Illingworth brought Yorkshire their first trophy in 14 years last summer, but he was often subjected to verbal abuse on the field because of the continuing Boycott controversy.

Illingworth also announced that the 35-year-old fast bowler, Steve Oldham, will be returning to Yorkshire from Derbyshire where he has played since 1980. Oldham will play if necessary, but his main job will be to coach the young bowlers.



Illingworth: no more stick

## W Indians inspired by Harper

Canberra (Reuter) - The off-spin bowler, Roger Harper, took four for 24 as the West Indians comfortably defeated Australia's Capital Territory in a one-day match here yesterday.

The local batsmen, chasing a formidable target of 244, were always struggling against the West Indian attack. Australia's total of 184 for seven off their 50 overs. The pace bowlers, Garner and Holding, were used sparingly, bowling only 11 overs between them, while Harper and Garner bowled their full quota of 10 overs.

The West Indians made a poor start, losing their first three wickets for only 21 runs.

SCOTTIE Watt (captain) 249 for nine (50 overs), Australian Capital Territory 184 for seven (50 overs) (K Stone 52, Harper 4 for 24).

## Australian sponsorship

Sydney (Reuter) - Four young Australian cricketers were yesterday awarded £500 scholarships for the 1984 English season. They are Peter Faulkner, of Tasmania, Ian Carr, Michael, of South Australia, Brett Mulder, of Western Australia, and Brett Housheer, of Queensland.

Australian cricket board said the four would play during the English summer for counties yet to be allocated.

Henscheer, aged 23, a right-handed batsman and off-spinner, has scored more than 1,000 runs in Sheffield Shield, and Mulder, another off-spinner, toured England with the Australian under-19s in 1983.

## TENNIS Scanlon not up to his seeding

Philadelphia (Agencies) - Brad Gilbert, the conqueror of Britain's John Lloyd in the first round, caused the major upset on Tuesday in the second round of the United States professional indoor championship here at the Spectrum. In a day which saw the departure of four seeded players, Gilbert defeated Bill Scanlon, a fellow American and seeded No 5, 6-4, 6-2.

Wojtek Fibak, the 1981 runner-up, recovered from 1-1 down in the final set to put out the tenth seed, Tim Mayotte, 3-6, 6-3, 7-5 and Ben Testerman beat the seventh seed, Gene Mayer, 6-7, 6-4, 6-3 in an all American match.

Eric Korita, whose powerful service had taken him to victory over Stefan Edberg, winner of the junior grand slam last year, eliminated Edberg's Swedish countryman, Henrik Sundstrom, 6-3, 6-1.

Gilbert's sound driving and volleying took him through against Scanlon who was the highest ranked player to fall. He took the first four games but Scanlon briefly showed his resistance when he saved three set points to recover at 4-5. But Scanlon netted a service return on the fourth set point and, in the

## No stopping the Czech

Marco Island, Florida (Agencies) - Hans Mandlikova, the Czechoslovak who ended Martina Navratilova's 54-match winning sequence last week, is maintaining her impressive form. After two years without a title her victory over Miss Navratilova was her second in succession, and on Tuesday she made progress in the women's grand prix tournament here.

Kathrin Keil, a professional for only one week, 6-2, 6-3, and said:

## Smith measures up with a swift century

Sydney (Reuter) - Steve Smith, Australia's new opening batsman, took advantage of a depleted attack to hit 106 from only 129 deliveries in his side's 87-run victory in a World Series Cup one-day match here yesterday. The result virtually guaranteed that Australia will meet the West Indies in next month's trials at Pakistan's expense.

Smith, 22, celebrated his move up the order by providing the cornerstone of the Australian total of 244 for eight.

He has been picked for the forthcoming tour of the West Indies and proved the selectors right in a partnership with Ritchie which gave Australia 50 runs in 43 minutes from 10 overs.

Smith took charge of the proceedings after Wessels, his fellow opener, was caught for seven.

Pakistan badly missed the experience and skill of fast bowler Sarfraz Nawaz and only their leg-spinner, Abdul Qadir, gave Australia any trouble, although even Qadir proved expensive, conceding 42 runs from his nine overs. Pakistan got away to a disastrous start when Mudassar was run out without scoring and Mohsin Khan was bowled for out.

Their captain, Imran Khan, steadied the innings with the help of Javed Miandad but when he was run out for 41 the Pakistani batting collapsed.

"Kim Hughes said if you get to 30 or 40, you will get your century, and I wanted to prove him right," said Smith. "I thought I scratched around for a while and the occasional one seemed away. But the longer I stayed the better I felt."



Fibak: more competitive

second set, he had on answer to Gilbert's passing shots.

Fibak triumphed after an unbalanced deciding set in which he trailed 3-1, led 3-4 then lost service to love for 5-5. He said later that he would be more competitive this year.

Sundstrom, the thirteenth seed, was on the receiving end of Korita's thundering service and was unable to get into his stride. Testerman's victory was less easily achieved. He qualified for the first set but prolonged the contest for two hours and a half and won the final game against service.

FIRST ROUND: H. Mandlikova (CZ) vs B. Gilbert (US) 6-3, 6-1; L. Pines (CZ) vs R. Harrison (US) 6-1, 7-5.

SECOND ROUND: B. Gilbert (US) vs B. Scanlon (US) 6-4, 6-2; E. Korita (US) vs H. Sundstrom (US) 6-3, 6-1; J. Carr (SA) vs G. Mayer (US) 6-4, 6-2; B. Mulder (WA) vs T. Mayotte (US) 7-5, 6-3; B. Housheer (QLD) vs B. Testerman (US) 6-7, 6-4, 6-3.

THIRD ROUND: H. Mandlikova (CZ) vs B. Gilbert (US) 6-3, 6-1; L. Pines (CZ) vs R. Harrison (US) 6-1, 7-5; J. Carr (SA) vs G. Mayer (US) 6-4, 6-2; B. Mulder (WA) vs T. Mayotte (US) 7-5, 6-3; B. Housheer (QLD) vs B. Testerman (US) 6-7, 6-4, 6-3.

## YACHTING US rallies under a new banner

San Diego (AP) - Dennis Conner, the first American to lose sailing's top trophy, the America's Cup, announced that he would try to win it back from Australia with the support of a national organization under the banner of the San Diego Yacht Club.

Conner, commodore of the club, said he had notified the New York Yacht Club of his plans on Monday. The New York club has sponsored the American champion in the race for the past 132 years and are to decide in April whether or not to choose Conner to represent them again.

"The New York Yacht Club deserves recognition for upholding the best tradition in yachting for more than a century," Conner, who added for the New York club last September and in 1980. "But because of the enthusiasm and support we've received for fielding a national effort we feel this is the appropriate time to take the trophy back to America."

He announced the formation of a national coalition of yacht club organizations to form the backbone of his effort. It will be called America's Cup National Yacht Club. "Our goal was to make America's Cup '87 a truly national group with the sole purpose of winning the cup for America," Conner said.

Conner's sailing team was recognized in the Australia day honours list announced yesterday by Governor-General Sir Ninian Stephen. Alan Bond, the syndicate head, received the highest honour, the Order of Australia, while the designer, Ben Lexell, was awarded a Companion of the Order.

## General Appointments



## Ministry of Health

## CONSULTANTS (P-0602-7/8-07-06-3)

From £29,000 p.a., Tax-free

Following vacancies exist in Salmaniya Medical Centre—a modern and comprehensively equipped 900 bed hospital:

CONSULTANT-UROLOGY  
CONSULTANT-OBSTETRIC (FEMALE)  
CONSULTANT-PEDIATRICS SURGERY  
CONSULTANT-PEDIATRICS  
CONSULTANT-CARDIO PULMONARY (BRONCHIAL SPECIAL INVESTIGATION)  
CONSULTANT-ORTHOPAEDICS  
CONSULTANT-ORAL SURGERY.

The Psychiatric Wing of Salmaniya Medical Centre also has vacancies for the following which require fluency in Arabic both written and spoken:

## CONSULTANT-PSYCHIATRY (P-0602-7/8-07-07-3)

From £29,000 p.a., Tax-free

## RESIDENT-PSYCHIATRY (P-0602-3/5-07-06-3)

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Bahrain is an independent island nation situated in the Arabian Gulf; a commercial and banking centre for the Arabian Gulf area, with a large community of expatriates enjoying a high standard of living. Advanced medical services, quality educational facilities, varied sports activities, top restaurants and hotels; traditional historical and cultural aspects provide a rewarding life-style for the discriminating resident. Initial contract is for two years, married or bachelor status, renewable by mutual agreement. Benefits such as accommodations, leave, education allowances, medical care and air fares are provided in accordance with contract status and are comparable to other major employers in the Middle East. Salary is open to negotiation depending on over-all suitability.

Applicants must meet current qualification requirements established by the Civil Service Bureau of the State of Bahrain. These requirements are comparable to worldwide standards for identical occupations. Individuals who believe that their background has prepared them to perform this work, should submit a C.V. detailing all of their education, experience, accomplishments and personal information. Indicate on the c.v. the position title and code number; send to:

Chief, Recruitment & Placement, Civil Service Bureau, P.O. Box 1066, Manama, Bahrain (Arabian Gulf).

\*includes European national inducement allowance; at current exchange rate.

J. Aron & Co. (UK) Ltd., a division of the Goldman Sachs Group has vacancies for the following:

## Senior Metals Dealer Physical Coffee Trader

The Senior Metals Dealer must possess a good working knowledge of the London Bullion Market, a thorough knowledge of Futures Trading and should have at least five years practical trading experience. Ref: SMD/101

The Physical Coffee Trader must possess experience in the field of Coffee Dealing and Merchandising, a thorough knowledge of the Futures Market and their relationship to Physicals and some working relationship with European Roasting Companies. A knowledge of one or more Foreign Languages would be an advantage. Ref: PCT/201

Salary and benefits for both positions will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. Candidates should apply with CV (quoting the appropriate reference) to:

The Personnel Manager, Goldman Sachs International Corp., 162 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4DB. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.



## Brochure Copywriter

International London-based travel company seeks experienced writer to produce brochures for the American market. Full knowledge of American vernacular a must. Travel industry experience preferred. Excellent salary and benefits.

Send C.V. with salary history in confidence to: Managing Director, Travellers Design Ltd., 10 Frederick Close, Stanhope Place, London W2 2HD.

## Travellers

New York London Paris Rome Cairo Madrid Rome Dublin Athens Los Angeles

## Sales and Marketing Appointments

## GOODE OPPORTUNITIES

As a result of the continuing expansion of the Company, Thomas Goode & Co. (London) Ltd. require:

## SENIOR SALES EXECUTIVES

Thomas Goode & Co. (London) Ltd. is an old established business in Mayfair, selling high class China, Glass, Silver and Giftware with an enviable international reputation for service to its customers over a period exceeding 150 years. Our recent penetration into overseas markets, in particular the Middle East, requires us to strengthen our selling capacity to overseas customers, and we have vacancies for ambitious, experienced, motivated sales executives to service this market.

Successful applicants will be required to research and identify potential customers and to conclude sales, which will include both our normal range of merchandise, and very large contracts of specially commissioned merchandise both overseas and in our Mayfair showrooms. Although some overseas travel is essential, it is anticipated that the majority of the executives time will be spent in the U.K.

Applicants should have a proven selling record overseas, preferably in the Middle East, while knowledge of the China, Glass and Silver trade would be an advantage although product training will be given. We will offer a generous basic salary and commission, according to qualifications and experience, plus bonus, company pension scheme, lunchtime vouchers etc.

If you are seeking a job that offers an interesting challenge, send details of your qualifications and experience to the Company Secretary:

Thomas Goode & Co. (London) Limited, 19 South Audley Street, London W1Y 6BN.

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Applications are invited for the above appointment in the Managing Director's Department within Grade XI £16,482 to £19,365 per annum.

The person appointed will act as departmental deputy to the MD and the duties and responsibilities will include the following:—

1. The co-ordination of Corporation staff.
2. Corporation personnel matters including staff training.
3. Liaison with the Unions and the servicing of Corporation Committees concerned with staff matters.
4. Attendance at Directors' weekly meetings.
5. Board administration.
6. Preparation of Corporation Reports and Statistics and Government Submissions.
7. The co-ordination of public relations, social development and safety matters.
8. The co-ordination of Corporation functions, hospitality and the management of career facilities.
9. Liaison with other public and statutory bodies, local authorities and community organisations.

Applicants should be of high educational standard preferably with an academic and/or professional qualification and must have wide administrative experience at a senior level. It is essential that applicants also have experience in personnel/union matters in a large department or at corporate level.

The appointment will be on contract for a period of two years and will be superannuable. An essential user car allowance is provided and in appropriate cases rented housing accommodation is available, also contributions towards removal expenses will be made. Subject to satisfactory service and future requirements for the post, the period of service may be renewable by mutual agreement.

Applications should be made in writing to the Managing Director with full details of experience and qualifications and providing the names of two persons to whom references may be made, and should be received no later than 10th February 1984.

R. W. Howell, Esq., B.Sc., C.Eng., MICE, FIMun E., Managing Director, Cwmbran Development Corporation, Gwent House, Gwent Square, Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 1XZ.

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You will need, of course, proven first class secretarial skills and ideally experience in using word processing. We will expect you also to have the maturity of character to operate at the highest level within the company and with customer personnel. A smart appearance and the ability to communicate well is therefore important, in addition to qualities of tact and flexibility.

This position offers an exciting challenge to candidates who enjoy a fast-moving customer environment. Interested applicants should send full cv or ring for an application form to: Chris Townsend, Wang (UK) Limited, Wang House, 661 London Road, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 4EU. Telephone 01-847 1954 (24-hour service).

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Applications are forwarded to the client concerned, therefore companies in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter to the Confidential Reply Supervisor.

## Austin Knight Advertising



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Laura Ashley require a Personal Assistant to work in their Export Department, with particular responsibility for garment sales.

Applicants should have at least 2-3 years sound commercial experience, preferably in a fashion-related field. The ability to communicate and liaise effectively at all levels both internally and with overseas operations will be essential. Good secretarial skills and administrative ability are also necessary. Pay, benefits and conditions of employment are attractive.

Please send full C.V. to: The Managing Director's Assistant, Laura Ashley Limited, Draynich House, Windsor Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 1DW.



# Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

## BBC 1

- 6.00 Cee-fax AM: news and information.
- 6.30 Breakfast Time: with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. Today's special includes Breakfast Time doctor (between 8.30 and 9.00) and Glynis Christian's cookery item (8.45-9.00). Regular items include news at 8.30 and half-hourly until 8.55; sport (8.40, 8.45) TV Choice (8.55) and the review of the morning papers (7.18 and 8.18). Russell Grant's horoscope item is at 8.55.
- 9.00 The Genuine Article: how to tell real jewels from fakes. With John Fitzmaurice Mills; 9.25 Pages from Cee-fax.
- 10.30 Play School: A House Made of Snow; 10.55 Cee-fax pages.
- 12.30 News Attenborough: 12.57 Financial Review. And subtitled news headlines.
- 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Holiday times from Jill Crawford; music by Carmel; 1.45 King Rollo; 1.50 Brick-a-brac.
- 2.00 The Afternoon Show: Anorexia victims talk about the distressing condition. Also, a discussion about the paranormal. Special guests: Peter Brough and Archie Andrews; 2.45 Dynasty: Blake invites his wife's former lover, Matthew Blaisdel, to dinner; 3.25 Arthur Aspinall: Enjoys a visit to Goodwood Racecourse.
- 3.50 The amazing Adventures of Morph: with Tony Hart; 3.55 Play School: It's Thursday; 4.20 Heathcliff: cartoon with a cat; 4.25 Jackie Paper: Jackie Paper reads the story Cat Skin; 4.40 Fonz and the Happy Days Gang: cartoon; 5.05 John Craven's Newsround; 5.10 Blue Peter: The one-handed Leicester clock that has stood still for a century.
- 5.40 Sixty Minutes: The line-up is: 5.40 News; 5.54 Weather; 5.55 Regional magazines; 5.58 Closing headlines.
- 6.40 Doctor Who: Episode one of Frontier. With Peter Dinklage, Peter Gilmore and Lesley Dunlop.
- 7.05 Tomorrow's World: Science and technology magazine. The weight-watcher's scales that tell us the whole truth about what we are eating (calorie content, etc) and how the techniques to diagnose antenatal abnormalities which could help make doctors' decisions easier in the light of the abortion controversy.
- 7.30 Top of the Pops: with Mike Smith and Susan, half part attendant) who is terrorizing London. With William Franklyn, Barry Cryer, Anna Dawson and the rest of last Thursday night's cast.
- 8.30 Hotel: An employee at the hotel becomes the victim of a sexual blackmail, with Anne Baxter and James Brolin.
- 9.30 TV Eye: Corruption in British public life. The first of a Midlands city council; at British Leyland; and at two of the Government's property services agencies.
- 9.25 Diner: Episode 3 of Andrew Davies' 10-part adaptation of R. F. Delderfield's novel finds Jan (now played by Kevin McNally) leaving Devon to work in Fleet Street. Jenny Seagrove now takes over as the girl of the title.
- 10.20 Question Time: Sir Robin Day's panel tonight consists of Lord Annan; Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North West; Edwina Currie, Conservative MP for Dorset; and Ruth Leabitt, a specialist in social policy.
- 11.20 Letting Go: How three families coped with the situation when their teenage children attempted to assert their independence.
- 11.45 News headlines.

## tv-am

- 6.25 Good Morning Britain: with Nick Owen and Anne Diamond. Today's special includes Judy Garland's 7.05, 8.05; Stars and their families (8.10); Films (8.35); and Michael Barry's cookery spot (9.05). Regular items include news (8.30, then half-hourly until 9.00); Sport (8.35, 7.35); Mid Lazine (8.59, 8.15); Guest of the Day (7.40); and Competition Time (8.27).

## ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 Thames News Headlines; 9.30 For Schools; 9.30 Fish-4-2 Magic and mystery; 9.50 Numbers; 10.11 Moving Again; 10.28 People and Politics; 10.50 Bones in Action; 11.08 Best Brush; 11.22 Daily bread deliveries; 11.39 The German Programme: Bei Bekanntheit/Freunden.
- 12.00 Emma and Grandpa: repeated at 4.00; 12.10 Get up and Go! with Beryl Reid; 12.30 The Sullivan: Australian family-at-war serial.
- 1.00 News; 1.20 Thames News; 1.30 A Place An invited audience listens to arguments for, and against, working women.
- 2.00 Crown Court: The verdict in the case of the journalist (Jim Broadbent) accused of receiving official secrets from a Ministry of Defence employee; 2.30 The Agatha Christie Hour: The Manhood of Edward Robinson. Nicholas Farrell plays the man who, winning a competition, buys the car of his dreams. With Charlie Lunt; 3.30 Sons and Daughters: Fiona has an unexpected visitor.
- 4.00 Children's ITV: Emma and Grandpa; 4.15 Bedtime cartoon; 4.20 Do It: The continuing story of Sheelagh Gilbey, the resourceful newspaper girl; 4.45 This is Me: A film about Paul Joseph, 15, to whom the belief world has never stopped beckoning; 5.15 The Young Doctors: Sister Scott is forced to cooperate with an intruder.
- 5.45 News; 6.00 Thames News; 6.30 Thames Sport: With Steve Rider and Simon Reed. Sports Rider and Simon Reed. Knight Rider: Michael (David Hirst) briefly loses his memory and reverts to his old identity.
- 8.00 The Steam Video Company: Creature from the Black Fog: Horror film about a strange creature (a man) who is terrorizing London. With William Franklyn, Barry Cryer, Anna Dawson and the rest of last Thursday night's cast.
- 8.30 Hotel: An employee at the hotel becomes the victim of a sexual blackmail, with Anne Baxter and James Brolin.
- 9.30 TV Eye: Corruption in British public life. The first of a Midlands city council; at British Leyland; and at two of the Government's property services agencies.
- 9.25 Diner: Episode 3 of Andrew Davies' 10-part adaptation of R. F. Delderfield's novel finds Jan (now played by Kevin McNally) leaving Devon to work in Fleet Street. Jenny Seagrove now takes over as the girl of the title.
- 10.20 Question Time: Sir Robin Day's panel tonight consists of Lord Annan; Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North West; Edwina Currie, Conservative MP for Dorset; and Ruth Leabitt, a specialist in social policy.
- 11.20 Letting Go: How three families coped with the situation when their teenage children attempted to assert their independence.
- 11.45 News headlines.



Jackie Gleason and Laurence Olivier (Channel 4, 9.30pm)

MR HALPERN and MR JOHNSON (Channel 4, 9.30pm) is a two-handed conversation piece. Two elderly gentlemen exchange brief words at their first meeting in a cemetery, then develop the relationship over drinks in an hotel and subsequently over lunch. But there is a silent and invisible third party present: the deceased wife of one of them, who is the sole topic of their conversation. Incorporated she is an infinitely more substantial figure than either of the two old chaps. Gleason's play has not come off or that, if it is the effect he intended, that it has. It might, on the other hand, be something to do with a strangely disappointed performance by Laurence Olivier as the brand-new widower who slides in and out of different social classes with the

## CHOICE

same abandon with which his speech swings between the East End of London and the West Side of New York. There is a similar lack of definition about the precise geographical setting of the play itself, though the waters sound vaguely American. There is no mistaking the side of the Atlantic from which Jackie Gleason, the Mr Johnson of the title, comes. He spends much of the play trying to convince Olivier's Mr Halpern that the 40-year bachelors he had with his wife was nothing more than platonic. Not until the very end do we discover that bereavement is not the only thing the two men have in common.

Even more so than A Star is Born, I COULD GO ON SINGING

(BBC 2, 6.55pm) is the film in which the actress in Judy Garland yields nothing to the popular singer. Some critics thought that Miss Garland's performance as the mother trying to retrieve her son, was the cinema's definitive study in heartbreak.

Radio choice: Ian Sawyer's young lover takes a bit of time to warm up in ROMEO AND JULIET (Radio 5, 7.57pm), but when the play eventually gets started, the whole production ignites. Top. Harriet Walters' Juliet is slight from the start... Paul August's play WHERE ARE YOU NOW, MARGARET MCCULLA? (Radio 4, 3.00pm) rams the point home that sentimental journeys into the past are best avoided. Some realistic dialogue and a strong feeling for the Merseyside location ensure that the message is safely, and entertainingly, delivered to us.

Zurich; Marenzio's Intermezzo No 2 (Music for the Media Wedding); Jacob van Eyck's Variations on a Theme (Hans-Martin Linde, Russia); Frederick the Great's Sonata in E minor (Linde/Consort; 18.00 News).

10.05 Morning Concert: part two. Sibelius's Lemminkainen and the Maidens of Seppä (Lemminkainen); and Nielsen's Symphony No 3 (Sinfonia aspiensia; with Kirsten Schultz, Peter Rasmussen and Danish Radio SO; 18.00 News).

10.55 This week's Composer: Couperin. Today's works include the Concert XIV in D minor; the Easter motet; Victoria Christa Resurgens; the Trio Sonata in E minor; La Parnasse of Correll; L'Apoteose de Correll.

11.00 Arrivals: Piano Concerto: Richter with the English Chamber Orchestra. The composer conducts.

11.35 Music for Clarinet: a recital by Michael Collins, with Vanessa Larche as accompanist. Works by Franz Anton Hoffmeister (Sonata in F), Bernhard Henrik Crusell (Introduction and Variations on Swiss Airs, Op 12), and Alec Templeton (Pocket-sized Sonata No 2).

11.55 Chamber Orchestras of Europe: English Chamber Orch. with BBC Singers, Jennifer Smith (soprano) and Valde Aveling (harpsichord). Part one: Soler's Selva, for soprano, chorus and orchestra; Gerhard's Cancionero de Pedrell; and Falla's Harpsichord Concerto. At 12.10 Falla's El Corregidor y la Monja. Interval reading at 12.05. News at 12.15. 1.05 Manchester Midday Concert: Medici String Quartet play Haydn's String Quartet in G minor, Op 74 No 3; and Mozart's in G, K 397.

2.00 (Masnadieri: Verdi's four-act opera. Sung in Italian, on records. It is based on Schiller's Die Rache. The composer conducts the Welsh National Opera forces. Joan Sumner sings the role of Amelia, with Frances Bonaldi as Carlo. Act one. Act 2 at 2.50, Act 3 at 3.30, and Act 4 at 4.05, with interval readings in between.

4.35 Clemen: John McCabe (piano) plays the Sonata in F minor, Op 13; 4.55 News.

5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: another Michael Berkeley selection.

6.30 Bandstand: Larkin Wild Ensemble play William Bennett's Symph No 2 (Lost Song).

7.00 Jane Manning and Friends: the soprano, with Simon Rowland-Jones (violin) and Tony Hayman (viola) in performances of Frank Bridge's Three Songs; and a Noel Coward encore.

7.35 Romeo and Juliet: Another chance to hear Richard Wortley's production of the Shakespeare play, in which Ian Sawyer and Harriet Walters play the title roles, with Elizabeth Sprague (as the Nurse), Stephen Thorne (Friar Laurence), William King (Mercutio), Stuart Stirling (Tybalt), and Alec Jennings (Balthazar). The music was specially written for this production by Rona Sekacz (17).

5.55 Sibelius: the Berlin Philharmonic, conducted by Herbert von Karajan, play the incidental music: Pellaea and Melanthe, 10.25 Music in Our Time: introduced by John Marlow. Includes the first broadcast of Robin Waller's Dance/Still; Thy's Telephus; music of the last 100 years; and Gertrude's Libra. Cephron.

11.15 News at 11.15.

## Radio 2

News on the hour. Major bulletins 7.00, 8.00am, 1.00, 5.00pm and 12.00 midnight. Headlines 5.30, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30am (MF/MW), 4.00pm Colin Berry; 5.30 Ray Moore; 7.30 Terry Wogan; 8.31 Racing Bulletin; 10.00 Jimmy Young; 12.00pm Steve Jones; 1.05 Sport; 2.00 Gloria Hunniford; 3.00 Sport; 3.30 Radio 2's 3.30 News; 4.02 David Hamilton; 4.02, 5.05 Sport; 6.00 John Dunn; 6.02 Sport; 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (MF only); 8.00 World News; 8.30 News; 9.00 News; 9.30 News; 10.00 News; 10.30 News; 10.55 News; 11.00 News; 11.15 News; 11.30 News; 11.45 News; 11.55 News; 12.00 News; 12.15 News; 12.30 News; 12.45 News; 1.00 News; 1.15 News; 1.30 News; 1.45 News; 1.55 News; 2.00 News; 2.15 News; 2.30 News; 2.45 News; 2.55 News; 3.00 News; 3.15 News; 3.30 News; 3.45 News; 3.55 News; 4.00 News; 4.15 News; 4.30 News; 4.45 News; 4.55 News; 5.00 News; 5.15 News; 5.30 News; 5.45 News; 5.55 News; 6.00 News; 6.15 News; 6.30 News; 6.45 News; 6.55 News; 7.00 News; 7.15 News; 7.30 News; 7.45 News; 7.55 News; 8.00 News; 8.15 News; 8.30 News; 8.45 News; 8.55 News; 9.00 News; 9.15 News; 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Buenos Aires	2 36	Kiara	2 81	Osaka		Tokyo	1 59
Buen Aires*	30 89	Las Palmas	1 20	Paris	5 41	Valencia	1 58
Cairo		Lisbon	8 48	Perth		Vancouver	1 46
Cape Town	25 77	Locarno	1 46	Puerto	26 79	Vladivostok	an
Cebu	16 81	Luganese	c 16 61	Rangoon	1 34	Warsaw	1 35
Chicago*	2 36	Luxembourg	c 1 30	Riyadh	13 21	Winnipeg	4 38
Cologne	1 36	Madrid	8 43	Rybinsk	10 54	Zürich	1 54

\*Venice 1984 figures are latest available